

# Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Tuesday, June 28, 2011

## Debt deal is possible

JIM KUHNHENN

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama plunged into deadlocked negotiations to cut government deficits and raise the nation's debt limit Monday, and the White



President Barack Obama welcomes the Major League Soccer champions Colorado Rapids to the White House in Washington, Monday, June 27, 2011. Obama plunged into deadlocked negotiations to cut government deficits and raise the nation's debt limit Monday, and the White House expressed confidence a "significant" deal with Republicans could be reached.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

House expressed confidence a "significant" deal with Republicans could be reached. But both sides only seemed to harden their positions as the day wore on, the administration insisting on higher taxes as part of the package but Republican leaders flatly rejecting the idea. Absent an agreement that cuts long-term deficits, Republicans say they will not vote to increase the nation's borrowing, which will exceed its \$14.3 trillion limit on Aug. 2.

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## Blago'in Down



Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, left, led by his wife Patti, comes to speak to the media at the Federal Courthouse Monday, June 27, 2011 in Chicago. Blagojevich has been convicted of 17 of the 20 charges against him, including all 11 charges related to his attempt to sell or trade President Barack Obama's vacated Senate seat.

(AP Photo/M. Spencer Green)  
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# Blagojevich, ex-governor, convicted of corruption in retrial

MONICA DAVEY

E. G. FITZSIMMONS

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CHICAGO — A jury Monday convicted Rod R. Blagojevich, the former governor of Illinois, of a broad pattern of corruption, including charges that he tried to personally benefit from his role in selecting a replacement for President Barack Obama in the U.S. Senate.

**Blagojevich, a Democrat, was found guilty of most of the 20 federal counts against him: 17 counts of wire fraud, attempted extortion, soliciting bribes, conspiracy to commit extortion and conspiracy to solicit and accept bribes.**

The verdict appeared to be the conclusion to the spectacle of Blagojevich's political career, which began its descent shortly after Obama was elected president in November 2008. A month after Election Day, Blagojevich, who was in his



Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich points to supporters as he leaves the Federal Courthouse Monday, June 27, 2011 in Chicago. Blagojevich has been convicted of 17 of the 20 charges against him, including all 11 charges related to his attempt to sell or trade President Barack Obama's vacated Senate seat.

(AP Photo/Kiichiro Sato)

second term as governor and under state law was required to name a senator to replace Obama, was ar-

rested, and federal agents revealed that they had recorded hundreds of hours of damaging phone calls

by him and his advisers. The outcome came as a victory for federal prosecutors, whose earlier trial

resulted in a deadlocked jury on most counts and led people to wonder whether Blagojevich's behavior would ultimately be deemed crass political deal-making or a lot of wishful, blustery talk, but not rise to the level of crimes. The jurors — 11 women and one man, all of whom declined to provide their names to reporters — said they believed they had sent a loud signal to corrupt Illinois politicians, past and future. "There's a lot of bargaining that goes on behind the scenes — we do that in our everyday lives, in business and everything," said the jury forewoman, a retired church employee from the Chicago suburbs. "But I think in the instances when it is someone representing the people, it crosses the line. And I think we sent a pretty clear message on that." And she had her own conclusion about the unseemly political world she had seen closeup through about six weeks of testimony. □

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# White House: 'Significant' debt deal is possible

Continued from Front page

The administration has warned that if Congress does not raise the debt ceiling, it could mean the first U.S. financial default in history and send economic shockwaves around the world. Obama and Vice President Joe Biden met with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid for about 30 minutes at the White House, and then met with Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell for about an hour in the early evening. White House spokesman Jay Carney said Obama reported after the morning session that "everyone in the room believes that a significant deal remains possible." But Carney also affirmed that Obama would only go for a deficit-reduction plan that included both spending cuts and increased tax revenue, an approach that Republicans say would never get through Congress.

Said Carney: "It's the only way to get it done if you want to do it right."

Obama and the vice president spent more time with McConnell than they did with Reid, an indication of the differences they still need to bridge. McConnell also was seen speaking with White House Chief of Staff Bill Daley moments before his meeting with Obama and Biden.

"The meeting concluded but they will continue to talk," McConnell spokesman Don Stewart said afterward.

Hours earlier McConnell reaffirmed Republican opposition to more tax hikes in a speech from the Senate floor. "It's time Washington take the hit," he said, "not the taxpayers."

McConnell said any tax increase or new spending would be counterproductive to economic recovery, and he pointed out that Democrats had been unable to pass tax increases on the wealthy when they controlled both chambers of Congress last year. □

# Jury visits home of Ohioan charged in 11 deaths

MEGHAN BARR  
THOMAS J. SHEERAN  
Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Guided by flashlight and wearing face masks, jurors were met with rooms buzzing with flies Monday as they visited the home of an Ohio man charged with killing 11 women and hiding their bodies around his property. A motorcade of four vans under police escort traveled to the three-story home of 51-year-old Anthony Sowell, whose trial began with opening statements on Monday afternoon in downtown Cleveland.

Jurors wore protective coverings over their shoes as they entered the home, which is surrounded by a towering metal fence. Reporters who accompanied the jury said the house smelled of mildew — and the smell grew worse as the jurors ascended from the basement to the third floor, where flies buzzed around the filthy rooms. Some rooms were in complete disrepair, with men's and women's clothing piled on the floor and dresser drawers flung open. A can of malt liquor stood



Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Dept. Sgt. Mike Starks closes a window in a bathroom at the home of Anthony Sowell during a visit by jurors Monday, June 27, 2011 in Cleveland. Sowell is charged with killing 11 women and hiding their remains in and around his property. Jurors preparing to hear opening statements Monday visited the property.

(AP Photo/Marvin Fong, Pool)

next to a bed on the third floor, and the mattress was covered with papers. In the basement, a wrench hung from a nail on the wall and a dead rat was found on the floor. Prosecutors say Sowell lured women from his inner-city Cleveland neighborhood into his home with the promise of alcohol or drugs, then killed them. He has pleaded not guilty to killing the women and faces the death penalty if convicted.

The bodies were found buried throughout the home and backyard in November 2009. The women disappeared one by one, starting in October 2007, with the last one vanishing in September 2009. □

# Court voids ban on sale to youth of violent games

ADAM LIPTAK  
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WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Monday struck down a California law that barred the sale of violent video games to children. The 7-2 decision was the latest in a series of rulings protecting free speech, joining others on funeral protests, videos showing cruelty to animals and political speech by corporations. In a second decision Monday, the last day of the term, the court also struck down an Arizona campaign finance law as a violation of the First Amendment. Justice Antonin Scalia, writing for five justices in the majority in the video games decision, *Brown v. Entertainment Merchants Association*, No. 08-1448, said video games were subject to full First Amendment protection. "Like the protected books, plays and movies that preceded them, video games

communicate ideas — and even social messages — through many familiar literary devices (such as characters, dialogue, plot

Amendment protection." Depictions of violence, Scalia added, have never been subject to government regulation. "Grimm's



Calif. State Sen. Leland Yee holds mature-rated video game boxes while speaking about a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court in San Francisco, on June 27, 2011. Yee authored a state law that barred the sale of violent video games to children, which the Supreme Court struck down Monday in a 7-2 decision on First Amendment grounds.

(Ruth Fremson/The New York Times)

and music) and through features distinctive to the medium (such as the player's interaction with the virtual world)," Scalia wrote. "That suffices to confer First

Fairy Tales, for example, are grim indeed," he wrote, recounting the gory plots of Snow White, Cinderella, and Hansel and Gretel. High school reading

lists and Saturday morning cartoons, too, he said, are riddled with violence. The California law would have imposed \$1,000 fines on stores that sold violent video games to people under 18. It defined violent games as those "in which the range of options available to a player includes killing, maiming, dismembering or sexually assaulting an image of a human being" in a way that was "patently offensive," appeals to minors' "deviant or morbid interests" and lacked "serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value." The definitions tracked language from decisions upholding laws regulating sexual content. In 1968, in *Ginsberg v. New York*, the court allowed limits on the distribution to minors of sexual materials like what it called "girlie magazines" that fell well short of obscenity, which is unprotected by the First Amendment. □

# Wildfire shuts Los Alamos lab, forces evacuations

SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN

Associated Press

LOS ALAMOS, New

**Mexico (AP)** — Thousands of residents calmly fled Monday from the town that's home to the Los Alamos nuclear laboratory, ahead of an approaching wildfire that sent up towering plumes of smoke, rained down ash and sparked a spot fire on lab property where scientists 50 years ago conducted underground tests of radioactive explosives.

Los Alamos National Laboratory officials said that the spot fire was soon contained and no contamination was released. They also assured that radioactive materials stored in various spots elsewhere on the sprawling lab were safe from flames.

The wildfire, which began Sunday, had destroyed 30 structures south and west of Los Alamos by early Monday and forced the closure of the lab while stirring memories of a devastating blaze in May 2000 that destroyed hundreds of homes and buildings. "The hair on the back of your neck goes



Threatened by the Las Conchas wildfire, cars wind their way along Diamond Drive following an evacuation order for Los Alamos, N.M., Monday, June 27, 2011.

Associated Press

up," Los Alamos County fire chief Doug Tucker said of first seeing the fire in the Santa Fe National Forest on Sunday. "I saw that plume and I thought, 'Oh my god here we go again.'"

Tucker said the current blaze — which grew Monday to roughly 50,000 acres, or 78 square miles — was the most active fire he had seen in his career.

By midafternoon, it had jumped a highway and burned an acre of land on the outskirts of the

lab's 36-square-mile complex.

The fire scorched about an acre in the area known as the Tech Area, 49, which was used in the early 1960s for a series of underground tests with high explosives and radioactive materials. Lab officials said the fire was safely extinguished.

Lab spokesman Kevin Roark said environmental specialists from the lab were mobilized and monitoring air quality on Monday, but that the main concern was

smoke.

The anti-nuclear watchdog group Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety, however, said the fire appeared to be about 3.5 miles from a dumpsite where as many as 30,000 55-gallon drums of plutonium-contaminated waste were stored in fabric tents above ground.

The group said the drums were awaiting transport to a low-level radiation dump site in southern New Mexico.

Lab spokesman Steve Sandoval declined to confirm that there were any such drums currently on the property. He acknowledged that low-level waste is at times put in drums and regularly taken from the lab to the Waste Isolation Pilot Project site in Carlsbad. Sandoval said the fire was "quite a bit away" from that storage area. But he could not say what would happen if

drums containing such waste were to burn.

"Unfortunately, I cannot answer that question other than to say that the material is well protected. And the lab — knowing that it works with hazardous and nuclear materials — takes great pains to make sure it is protected and locked in concrete steel vaults. And the fire poses very little threat to them."

Traffic on Trinity Drive, one of the main roads out of Los Alamos, was bumper-to-bumper Monday afternoon as residents followed orders to leave. Authorities said about 2,500 of the town's roughly 12,000 residents left under an earlier voluntary evacuation.

"We're just hoping for the best," Vivian Levy, a resident since the 1970s said as she packed her car and her animals — again.

"Last time, I just walked out of my house and said goodbye, and that it was going to be OK," she said before breaking down in tears. "I'm doing the same thing this time. It's going to be OK. I'm prepared to say goodbye."

The fire has the potential to double or triple in size, Tucker said, and firefighters had no idea which direction the 60 mph-plus winds would take it. On Monday afternoon, the flames were just across the road from the southern edge of the famed northern New Mexico lab, where scientists developed and tested the first atomic bomb during World War II. □

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# As expectations grow, Bachmann opens presidential bid

JEFF ZELENY

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**WATERLOO, Iowa** — Rep. Michele Bachmann's presidential candidacy, which she formally opened here Monday, shakes up an already unsettled Republican field and creates one of the biggest tests yet for the breadth of the Tea Party movement's appeal.

As she returned to her childhood home in Waterloo, where she lived until the age of 12, Bachmann asked voters to "make a bold choice" as they weigh the Republican contenders. She presented herself as a forceful conservative, unafraid to confront the party establishment and unwilling to compromise on its principles in her quest to win the nomination to challenge President Barack Obama.

"I seek the presidency not for vanity," she said, "but because America is at a crucial moment."

The expectations for Bachmann, who ascended from little-known member of Congress from Minnesota to nationally revered figure among social conservatives and Tea Party activists, have increased significantly since she first hinted at the idea of run-



Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-Minn.) during a tea party rally at the U.S. Capitol in Washington. Bachmann formally announced her bid for the Republican presidential nomination in her Iowa home town of Waterloo on June 27, 2011.

(Philip Scott Andrews/The New York Times)

ning for president only a few months ago.

On the eve of her announcement, she was locked in a statistical tie with Mitt Romney in The Des Moines Register's Iowa Poll, the first survey of voters who say they plan to attend the Republican caucuses that open the presidential nominating contest early next year.

Her name recognition and high visibility contributed to her rapid rise, advisers said, and her challenge now is to build a

campaign structure that can capture the grassroots enthusiasm surrounding her.

The Iowa Straw Poll on Aug. 13, which she described as "a big deal" to an audience of admirers here, will be the first test of the depth of Bachmann's support. She has brought on a team of new strategists, several of whom were at the side of Mike Huckabee, a former governor of Arkansas, when he won the Iowa caucuses in 2008.

Mindful of how Huck-

bee surged four years ago, her Republican rivals are paying close attention to Bachmann. Tim Pawlenty, a former governor of Minnesota who probably has the most to lose if her candidacy takes off, released a radio advertisement in Iowa with the slogan "Results, not rhetoric."

Bachmann, 55, was once seen as an understudy to Sarah Palin. But Bachmann has essentially reversed roles, plunging ahead into the campaign to fill what she

perceives as a void in the field.

Palin is scheduled to arrive in Iowa on Tuesday to attend the premiere of a documentary on her life, "The Undefeated," a rare appearance here that is sure to stir speculation about her political intentions.

But by the time Palin arrives, Bachmann will be well into her three-state announcement tour, with stops in New Hampshire and South Carolina, which hold the first primaries next year.

While Bachmann announced her candidacy at her party's first major presidential debate two weeks ago, she made it official on the steps of the Snowden House, a historic brick building in downtown Waterloo. Her message to a crowd of about 200 people, including a large contingent of relatives, on a sun-splashed morning was accompanied by an occasional chorus of honking horns, as trucks passed on a nearby highway. She introduced herself as a candidate with broad appeal, acknowledging the spirit of Tea Party activists, but pointing out that she also hails from a long line of Democrats. □

# Districts watch as Washington runs teacher-review system

SAM DILLON

© 2011 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** — Emily Strzelecki, a first-year science teacher here, was about as eager for a classroom visit by one of the city's roving teacher evaluators as she would be to get a tooth drilled.

"It really stressed me out because, oh my gosh, I could lose my job," Strzelecki said. Her fears were not unfounded: 165 Washington teachers were fired last year based on a pioneering evaluation system that places significant emphasis on classroom observations; next month, 200 to 600 of the city's 4,200 educators are expected to get similar bad news, in the nation's highest rate of dismissal for poor performance.

The evaluation system, known as Impact, is disliked by many unionized teachers but has become a model for many educators. Spurred by President Barack Obama and

his \$5 billion Race to the Top grant competition, some 20 states and thousands of school districts are overhauling the way they grade teachers, and many have sent people to study Impact.

Admirers say the system, a centerpiece of the tempestuous tenure of Washington's former schools chancellor, Michelle Rhee, has brought clear teaching standards to a district that lacked them and is setting a new standard by establishing job forfeiture as a consequence of ineffective instruction. But some educators say it is better at sorting and firing teachers than at helping struggling ones; they note that the system does not consider socioeconomic factors in most cases and that last year 35 percent of the teachers in the city's wealthiest area, Ward 3, were rated highly effective, compared with 5 percent in Ward 8, the poorest.

"Teachers have to be parents, priests,

lawyers, clothes washers, babysitters and a bunch of other things" if they work with low-income children, said Nathan Saunders, president of the Washington Teachers Union. "Impact takes none of those roles into account."

Jason Kamras, architect of the system, said "it's too early to answer" whether Impact makes it easier for teachers in well-off neighborhoods to do well but pointed out that Washington's compensation system offers bigger bonuses (\$25,000 vs. \$12,500) and salary enhancements in high-poverty schools. The evaluation system leans heavily on student test scores to judge about 500 math and reading teachers in Grades 4 to 8. Ratings for the rest of the city's 3,600 teachers are determined by five classroom observations annually, three by principals and two by "master educators," most recruited from outside Washington. □

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## Female candidate readies bid for presidency of teamsters

**STEVEN GREENHOUSE**

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Sandy Pope acknowledges straightaway that she faces an uphill battle – she is the first woman to run for the presidency of the very macho Teamsters union, and she is running against a three-term incumbent, James P. Hoffa, who has one of the most famous last names in American labor. But Pope, president of the Teamsters Local 805 in Queens, N.Y., since 2005, insists that she can pull off an upset. She argues that the rank and file are tired of Hoffa and fed up with contracts packed with concessions.

**"The anger among the membership is at an all-time high," said Pope, who ran unsuccessfully for the union's No. 2 spot, secretary-treasurer, in 2006 as part of a dissident slate that lost by a ratio of nearly 2-1. "The members are much more willing to look for change than five years ago."**

Although the mob influence that once pervaded the Teamsters has been largely rooted out thanks to two decades of federal supervision and scores of indictments and expulsions, the union and its 1.4 million members face other problems. Membership has steadily declined as non-union trucking companies have taken over much of the market, and the economic downturn has made it hard to negotiate sizable wage increases or in some cases, to avoid contract concessions. Pope's campaign will enter a higher gear after Thursday, when she expects to be officially

nominated as a candidate for the presidency at the Teamsters convention in Las Vegas. A third candidate, Fred Gegare, a former supporter of Hoffa and leader of a Teamsters local in Wisconsin, is also expected to be nominated. The members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters are scheduled to vote this

lidified his base."

Pope, who is affiliated with Teamsters for a Democratic Union, a powerful faction that has long opposed Hoffa, said she wanted to make the Teamsters a more dynamic, more combative union that energizes its rank and file far more. But even if she loses, she said, she is confident that her

cized several contracts negotiated in recent years, especially the one with YRC Worldwide, the biggest unionized long-haul trucking company, which included a 15 percent pay cut and exempted the company from making pension contributions for nearly two years. Union leaders justified that as an

to help protect herself. Supporters say she is a smart, savvy operator and a charismatic speaker. And she is plenty tough, having faced sexual harassment and a lot of boos when she ran for secretary-treasurer. "I've had to take a lot of guff," Pope said. "Driving a truck is a hard job. It's hard to drive in snow and ice in Cleveland and Buffalo, going to places you don't know and making deliveries in the middle of the night." She recalled arriving covered in grease to truck stops that had only men's showers, often asking a waitress to stand guard while she washed up.

Hoffa's forces say they are hardly worried about Pope. "She can wish upon a prayer of a rainbow," said John Murphy, a Teamsters vice president for the Eastern Region who is a member of Hoffa's slate. "She's very critical, but she doesn't offer any solutions. She doesn't have a rationale to justify her campaign. She's a vanity candidate."

Murphy said Hoffa – who has led the union since 1999, after Ron Carey was forced out from the presidency in a campaign-finance scandal – had done an excellent job. "By any measure, what Jim Hoffa has achieved over the past 12 years has been quite remarkable," said Murphy, whom the Hoffa campaign put forward as its spokesman. "He's unified the organization. He's restructured the finances. He's built up a solid strike fund, and he's stepped up our organizing efforts." Under Hoffa, the union has organized 30,000 private school bus drivers, monitors and mechanics and 7,500 ramp workers at Continental Airlines. □



**Sandy Pope, the first woman to run for the presidency of the Teamsters union, in Amityville, N.Y., June 24, 2011. Pope expects to be officially nominated as a candidate at the Teamsters convention in Las Vegas on June 30.**

**(Robert Stolarik/The New York Times)**

fall. Like many political candidates, Pope hopes to capitalize on an anti-incumbent fever that has been fueled by the weak economy, and she says she thinks the three-person race will give her an edge as the person least identified with the old guard and a problem-plagued status quo. But David L. Gregory, a professor of labor law at St. John's University, questioned Pope's chances. "I would suspect Hoffa has a lock on the presidency," he said. "He seems to have so-

campaign will improve the union by propagating her vision and prodding Hoffa to adopt some of it. She said she would have the locals do far more organizing and would move money from headquarters to the locals to pay for it. She also intends to push locals to cooperate more to increase their clout when negotiating with regional employers. Pope said Hoffa had not been nearly aggressive or tough enough in bargaining or organizing. She criti-

effort to keep the company out of bankruptcy and save more than 25,000 jobs, and the union received some equity in YRC in exchange. Pope, 54, is far from the traditional image of a burly male Teamsters president. She is 5-foot-6, weighs 135 pounds and has blond-streaked sandy brown hair that falls past her shoulders. A member of the union since 1978, she drove trucks in the Midwest for years, hauling steel and delivering auto parts, and obtained a black belt in tae kwan do

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## Hague court issues warrant for Gadhafi for war crimes

MARLISE SIMONS

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PARIS — The International Criminal Court in The Hague issued arrest warrants Monday for Moammar Gadhafi, his son Seif al-Islam Gadhafi and his chief of intelligence, Abdullah Senussi, on charges of crimes against humanity, including murder and persecution, stemming from the first two weeks of the uprising in Libya that led to a NATO bombing campaign.

At a 30-minute hearing, the presiding judge said that there were "reasonable grounds" to hold the three men criminally responsible for killing, injuring and imprisoning hundreds of civilians after demonstrations against the regime broke out in February.

The judge, Sanji Monageng

of Botswana, said it was impossible to know the number of victims because the

crimes were covered up. The court said Gadhafi and his son, whom it described



Libyans chant slogans against Moammar Gadhafi during a demonstration in the rebel-held capital Benghazi, Libya. Libyans celebrated after receiving the news of an arrest warrant issued against Moammar Gadhafi, in the rebel-held capital Benghazi, Libya, Monday, June 27, 2011. The International Criminal Court (ICC) has issued arrest warrants for Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, his son and his intelligence chief for crimes against humanity in the early days of their struggle to cling to power.

(AP Photo/Hassan Ammar)

as the "de facto prime minister," intended to suppress all dissent and that this policy was implemented by Senussi, Gadhafi's brother in law, who is the head of military intelligence, which the court described as "one of the most powerful and efficient instruments of repression of the Gadhafi regime."

The warrants were limited to events between Feb. 18 and Feb. 28, before a full-scale conflict erupted between the Gadhafi regime and rebel forces.

Libya is not among the 115 countries that recognize the court, and Libyan officials have said they would disregard any court action. But the charges against Libyan leaders also carry the weight of the U.N. Security Council, which voted unanimously to instruct the court

to investigate the crackdown against civilians.

The issuing of the arrest warrants immediately raised questions of how — and if — the court could gain custody of the men without having police powers of its own. Lawyers following the court argue that the shortest route would be for Libyan rebels to capture the suspects.

But even as rebel fighters have loosened Gadhafi's grip on the mountain towns southwest of Tripoli in recent weeks, they have thus far been unable to reach the heavily defended capital. On Monday, rebels based in the mountains pushed north and east to the town of Bir al Ghanam, roughly 100 miles from Tripoli, in heavy fighting with Gadhafi forces, news agencies reported. □

## Finance minister calls for reforms to bolster Russia's global power

ELLEN BARRY

© 2011 New York Times

MOSCOW — It has been an unusual season for Aleksei L. Kudrin, Russia's finance minister, one of Moscow's quietest and most powerful men. Several times in recent months, Kudrin — a longtime ally of Prime Minister Vladimir V. Putin — has called for deep domestic changes, arguing that Russia will slip out of the ranks of the world's leading nations unless it allows for fair competition in politics and business. In a period of political uncertainty, Kudrin's complaints are impossible to ignore.

This is partly because, having already outlasted five prime ministers during his 11-

year tenure, he will almost certainly remain in place next spring no matter who is president — presumably either Putin or the incumbent, Dmitri A. Medvedev. But it is

also because he speaks for an important group: well-placed Russian elites who are advocating for political change from within the system. □



Aleksei Kudrin, Russia's finance minister, in his office in Moscow, June 22, 2011. Several times in recent months, Kudrin, a longtime ally of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, has called for deep domestic changes, arguing that Russia will slip out of the ranks of the world's leading nations unless it allows for fair competition in politics and business.

(James Hill/The New York Times)

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## Sudan president arrives in China after 1 day delay

**ALEXA OLESEN**  
Associated Press

**BEIJING (AP)** — Sudan's president arrived in Beijing for talks with Chinese officials on Tuesday, a day after his plane was forced to turn back over Turkmenistan because of flight itinerary problems. China is a major economic partner for Sudan, and Beijing extended the invitation to President Omar al-Bashir despite an international warrant accusing him of war crimes. Sudan's Foreign Ministry said al-Bashir's flight from the Iranian capital Tehran was delayed. The delay forced the rescheduling of a meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao. The reasons why the plane had been redirected were not fully explained, but apparently there was confusion over the flight plan. Sudan's Foreign Ministry said in a statement carried by the official Sudan News Agency that al-Bashir's plane had been instructed to change its route while flying over Turkmenistan but was unable to do so, and instead returned to Tehran. The website of the France-based Sudan Tribune cited unnamed sources as saying the presidential plane's flight path was abandoned after it was "deemed risky" but didn't elaborate.

Chinese Foreign Ministry official Guan Enxia said al-Bashir's meetings with Hu and other Chinese leaders had been pushed to Wednesday. Al-Bashir is wanted by the International Criminal Court for allegedly orchestrating atrocities in Sudan's Darfur region on the first such warrant against a sitting head of state. The Netherlands-based court has no police

force and relies on member states to execute its orders and warrants. China is not a member. The Sudanese leader rejects the charges, and China, which has major oil investments in Sudan, has expressed concerns the indictment of al-Bashir

eral other nations, including ICC treaty signatories Chad and Kenya. His talks with Chinese leaders are expected to focus on promoting peace in the African nation ahead of south Sudan's independence next month. Violence has

9. In an interview with China's state-run Xinhua News Agency before he left Sudan, al-Bashir said the split would not affect relations between Sudan and China, even if Beijing were to establish relations with the southern Sudan state.



Sudan's leader Omar al-Bashir, centre, leaves his aircraft as he arrives at Beijing International Airport Tuesday, June 28, 2011. Sudan's president arrived in Beijing for talks with Chinese officials on Tuesday, a day after his plane was forced to turn back over Turkmenistan because of flight itinerary problems. China is a major economic partner for Sudan, and Beijing extended the invitation to President Omar al-Bashir despite an international warrant accusing him of war crimes.

(AP Photo/Liu Jin, Pool)

could further destabilize the region. Amnesty International earlier said China should withdraw its invitation to al-Bashir and arrest him if he travels to Beijing. "If China welcomes Omar Al-Bashir, it will become a safe haven for alleged perpetrators of genocide," said Amnesty's Deputy Asia Pacific Director Catherine Baber. Al-Bashir has traveled without arrest to sev-

escalated in areas contested by the north and soon-to-be-independent south, and China is pressing both sides to peacefully settle the disputes, Beijing's special envoy for African affairs Liu Guijin said last week. China has long had close ties with the leaders of the north. It has been courting support in the oil-producing south, which becomes an independent country July

He praised China as an oil partner, calling the agreements with Chinese companies a "real exchange of benefits," while saying deals with Western companies were unfair. South Sudan's declaration of independence next month will be the culmination of a 2005 peace deal that ended more than two decades of civil war that killed more than 2 million people. □

## IMF could pick Lagarde as soon as this Tuesday

**C. S. RUGABER**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — French Finance Minister Christine Lagarde is expected to be chosen as early as Tuesday to be the new leader of the International Monetary Fund.

Lagarde would be the first woman to lead the lending organization. She would replace Dominique Strauss-Kahn, who resigned last month after being charged with sexually assaulting a New York City hotel housekeeper. Lagarde was opposed by Agustin Carstens, a Mexican central banker whose candidacy never caught fire, even among developing countries.

Lagarde has broad support in Europe. And a high-ranking Chinese official said Monday that Beijing supports Lagarde, according to several reports.

U.S. officials haven't publicly backed any candidate. But most analysts expect the Obama administration to support Lagarde. Combined, the United States, Europe and China hold a majority of votes on the IMF's board. The 24-member executive board represents the 187 members of the IMF, which lends to financially troubled countries. The board members will seek to agree on a new managing director by consensus. The IMF's board will meet Tuesday. Lagarde's selection will likely provoke protests from developing countries. Under an informal arrangement dating to the end of World War II, a European always leads the IMF and an American runs its sister organization, the World Bank. □

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## Convicted murderer says he believes Knox is guilty

ALESSANDRA RIZZO

Associated Press

PERUGIA, Italy (AP) — A man convicted of murdering a Brit-

by these statements."

The testimony by Guede, a 24-year-old immigrant from the Ivory Coast, was closely

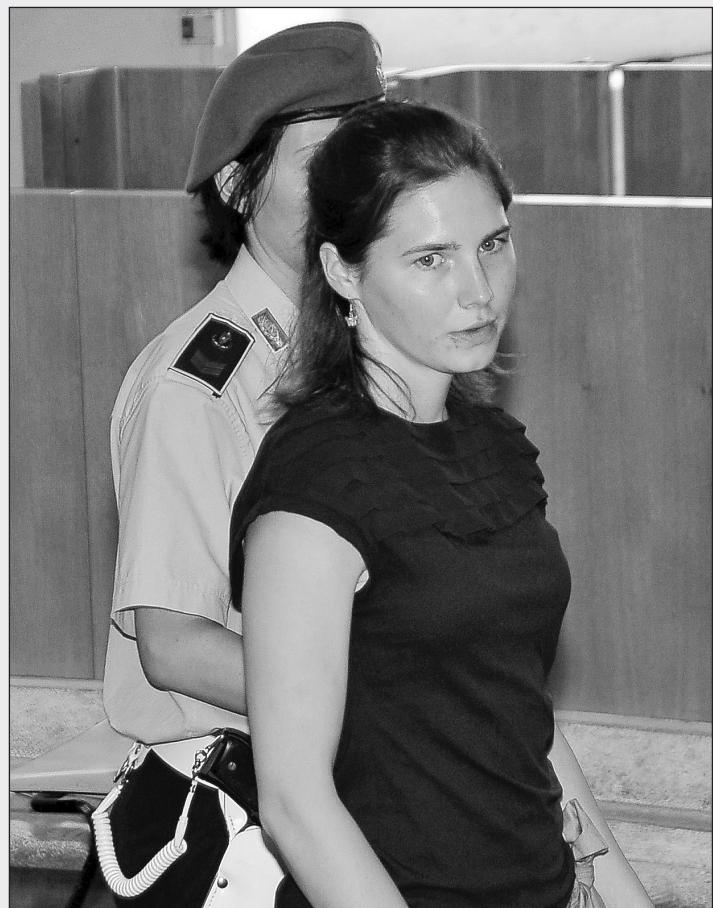
ment she and Knox shared in Perugia.

Prosecutors claimed in Knox's first trial that Guede, Knox and Sollecito killed Kercher in what had begun as a sexual game. Taking the stand, Guede confirmed the contents of a letter he wrote to his lawyers last year, in which he accused Knox and Sollecito of killing Kercher. In the March 2010 letter, which was read out loud in court, Guede wrote that he had nothing to do with the "horrible murder of the splendid and wonderful Meredith Kercher by Knox and Sollecito." "This is a thought I've always had in my mind," Guede told the court Monday. "It's not up to me to decide who killed Meredith Kercher," he added. "I've always said who was there that damned night in that house." Guede said he was telling "the truth I lived through that night." Guede is serving a 16-year-prison sentence for the murder. He sought a fast-track procedure and has already exhausted all levels of appeal. He was escorted in court by police in handcuffs. Knox and Sollecito were convicted of sexual assault and murder in separate proceeding. She was sentenced to 26 years in prison, he to 25.

"Raffaele Sollecito, Guede and I have only been in the same place in a court," Knox said as she denied Guede's accusation. "I don't know what happened that night," Knox added, saying she wished she could have said so to Guede's face. She was only allowed to speak after Guede was escorted out. "Amanda wanted to be able to stand up and tell him to tell the truth," said Edda Mellas, Knox's mother.

ti, a close friend of Guede's who has often visited him in prison, told the court Monday that the Ivorian had never mentioned speaking to Alessi about the case.

Like Knox and Sollecito, Guede has denied killing Kercher. Unlike them, he has admitted being at the crime scene the



Amanda Knox, foreground, escorted by a Penitentiary guard, arrives for the appeal hearing, in Perugia, Italy, Monday, June 27, 2011. The appeals trial of American student Amanda Knox against her murder conviction resumed Monday in a packed courtroom where an Ivorian man convicted in the slaying is to take the stand in closely watched testimony.

(AP Photo/Stefano Medici)

ish exchange student testified Monday that he believes her roommate, Amanda Knox, and her ex-boyfriend killed her — an accusation that prompted an emotional denial from Knox. "He knows we weren't there," American student Knox said moments after her accuser, Rudy Hermann Guede, left the courthouse. "I'm shocked and anguished

watched in the packed courtroom in Perugia. He had been called as a witness for the prosecution in the appeals trial of Knox and Raffaele Sollecito, her Italian ex-boyfriend and co-defendant.

Knox and Sollecito were convicted in the Nov. 1, 2007 slaying of Meredith Kercher, whose body was found in a pool of blood in the apart-



Rudy Hermann Guede of Ivory Coast, center, testifies during the appeal hearing, in Perugia, Italy, Monday, June 27, 2011. The first man convicted of killing a British student in Italy is to give evidence in the appeal hearing of American Amanda Knox and her former boyfriend against their murder convictions. Guede is serving a 16-year-prison sentence for the 2007 murder of Meredith Kercher, a British student who was stabbed to death in the apartment she shared with Knox.

(AP Photo/Stefano Medici)

stand, Guede denied talking to Mario Alessi about the case. The letter that was read in court had been written by Guede to deny Alessi's claims. Witness Giacomo Benedet-

night of the murder. Speaking at the opening of his own appeals trial, Guede claimed he had heard Kercher and Knox argue minutes before the Briton was slain. □

# Seniors volunteer at Japan's crippled Daiichi nuclear plant

**KEN BELSON**

© 2011 New York Times

TOKYO — By any measure, the thousands of people toiling to cool the crippled nuclear reactors in Fukushima are engaged in jobs that the Japanese consider kitanai, kitsui and kiken, or dirty, difficult and dangerous. Seemingly against logic, Yasuteru Yamada, 72, is eager for the chance to take part. After seeing hundreds of younger men on television struggle to control the damage at the Daiichi power plant, Yamada struck on an idea: Recruit other older engineers and other specialists to help tame the rogue reactors. Not only do they have some of the skills needed, but because of their advanced age, they are at less risk of getting cancer and other diseases that develop slowly as a result of exposure to high levels of radiation. Their volunteering would spare younger Japanese from dangers that could leave them childless, or worse. "We have to contain this accident, and for that, someone should do the work," said Yamada, a retired plant engineer who had worked for Sumitomo Metal Industries.

"It would benefit society if the older generation took the job because we will get less damage from working there."

Weeks after the devastating earthquake and tsunami struck, he and Nobuhiro

Shiotani, a childhood friend who is also an engineer, formed the Skilled Veterans Corps in early April. They sent out thousands of emails and letters, and even set up a Twitter account. On his blog, bouhat-susoshi.jp/english, Yamada called on people over age

old man. Some 1,200 others have offered support, while donations have topped 4.3 million yen, or \$54,000. His blog has been translated into 12 languages.

Although Yamada, a soft-spoken cancer survivor, started with a simple goal, he has triggered a much

cruiting workers. Some experts expect that Japan will ultimately import laborers to help with the cleanup. More than 3,000 workers, many of them poorly paid part-timers, are at the Daiichi site. Already, several have suffered heat stroke, and nine have absorbed

mindless kooks willing to throw themselves in harm's way, or pensioners with too much leisure time. The descriptions miss the point, according to Shiotani, who had a more practical idea in mind. "Nuclear power plants are the brainchild of scientists and engineers," he said. "They created this mess, and they have to fix it." In conditions this dangerous, wanting to help and being allowed to help are different things. Some lawmakers initially scoffed at the volunteers, including Goshi Hosono, an aide to Prime Minister Naoto Kan, who told reporters last month that the work in Fukushima did not yet require a "suicide corps." "It is very precious that they sacrifice their lives and volunteer to resolve this situation," Hosono later explained. But "they are at a certain age, so we don't want them to get sick after working in such a dangerous environment with full facemasks." But in a country starved for feel-good stories, the Skilled Veterans Corps has captured the hearts of many.

Requests for interviews have poured in from around the world. Politicians have slowly come on board. On June 6, Yamada met Banri Kaieda, the minister of economy, trade and industry, who promised to help the volunteers before their "enthusiasm burns out." □



**Yasuteru Yamada, left, Masaaki Takahashi, center, and Kazuko Sasaki, volunteers for the Daiichi power plant, at the Skilled Veterans Corps office in Tokyo, June 27, 2011. After seeing hundreds of younger men on television struggle to control the damage at the Daiichi power plant, Yamada struck on an idea: Recruit other older engineers and other specialists to help tame the rogue reactors.**

(Ko Sasaki/The New York Times)

60 who have "the physical strength and experience to bear the burden of this front-line work."

The response was instant. About 400 people have volunteered, including a singer, a cook and an 82-year-

wider debate about the role of the elderly in Japan, the meaning of volunteerism and the growing reality that the Tokyo Electric Power Co., which owns the reactors, will face an increasingly difficult time re-

more than their legal limit of radiation. Dozens of workers have stopped showing up.

Yamada and his group have been described as selfless patriots surrendering for the greater good,

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## Mexico: Gunmen kill police chief

### MONTERREY, Mexico (AP)

— Gunmen burst into the office of the police chief of a northern Mexico city and shot him to death Monday, authorities said. Santa Catarina Police Chief German Perez was shot at least eight times, said a Nuevo Leon state police official, who agreed to give details of the case only if not quoted by name.

Mayor Gabriel Navarro said Perez had not mentioned receiving any threats when they spoke earlier in the day.

Witnesses told police that gunmen in two cars and three pickup trucks arrived at Santa Catarina's police headquarters Monday afternoon and went straight to Perez's office.

Navarro said it wasn't clear where Perez's bodyguards were at the time of the attack. He said state investigators were reviewing surveillance tape.

Perez's killing came a day after three Santa Catarina police officers were detained on suspicion of spying on officers in a neighboring town for the Zetas drug cartel.

Santa Catarina is a suburb of Monterrey, a business and industrial center that is Mexico's third largest city.

The greater Monterrey area has been the scene of constant killings and reprisals among rival drug traffickers since a rupture between the Gulf and Zeta cartels in late 2009. □



## Greek austerity plan passage now seems less certain

RACHEL DONADIO

© 2011 New York Times

ATHENS, Greece — Parliamentary debate began here Monday evening before one of the most important votes in recent Greek history: whether to approve a set of deeply unpopular austerity measures that are the price of an urgent infusion of international aid.

As recently as last week, it appeared as if the Socialist prime minister, George A. Papandreou, would manage to push the measures through Parliament, where he has a narrow five-vote majority. That was true even after the center-right New Democracy opposition party announced that it would vote against them, saying they involved too much austerity and not enough stimulus spending.

But in recent days, a series of dissenters within Papandreou's Socialist Party — and a growing feeling that this government may be short-lived — have complicated the picture for the votes scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday. On Monday, Greece's future, and even the stability of the euro, were hanging on the decisions of a few wavering Greek politicians in a tense climate of political maneuvering. The pressure on them will only increase as recalcitrant labor unions and angry voters begin a two-day general strike Tuesday.

A growing number of economists have criticized the measures for forcing Greece to cut spending amid a deep recession, but most analysts still contend that the proposals will pass, if only because the alternatives are at least as dire. "Anything can happen, but I think it will be a yes," said Babis Papadimitriou, a political analyst for Skai television and Kathimerini, a daily newspaper. If Parliament does not approve the measures, including wage cuts, tax increases and the privatization of 50 billion euros, or about \$71 billion, in state assets, the European Union, the European Central Bank and the International Mon-

etary Fund have said they will not release \$17 billion that Greece needs to pay its expenses through the summer. Without the pay-

ment, the country will default, undermining the European common currency and potentially creating market turmoil over the ex-



**Greek-American TV host and actress Maria Menounos during a press conference on The Special Olympics in Athens. Parliamentary debate began here Monday evening before one of the most important votes in recent Greek history: whether to approve a set of deeply unpopular austerity measures that are the price of an urgent infusion of international aid.**

(AP Photo/Kostas Tsironis)

posure of banks that hold the debt of Greece and other troubled economies in the region. Opening a parliamentary debate on the changes Monday evening, Papandreou urged politicians to place "the good of the nation above narrow party interest" and approve the measures, which he said were the only way to save Greece from default and set it on the road to economic recovery. By approving them, "we guarantee the stability of our country in the medium term so that we can pay salaries and pensions," the prime minister said, adding that their approval "will bring to an end a chapter of uncertainty and open the door to a new, healthy beginning." □



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# A newsroom that doesn't need news

DAVID CARR

© 2011 New York Times

**LOS ANGELES** — It is 6:30 in the morning, and a stubborn mist is hanging low over the Hollywood Hills. This is when TMZ punches in and goes to work making a television show that that is beamed out five nights a week to the rest of us, minding our culture's need to know every single little thing about celebrities.

Syndicated by Fox Broadcasting for the past five years, "TMZ" the show is recorded in the newsroom of TMZ the website, situated on Sunset Boulevard a block from the Chateau Marmont. It is an aggressive purveyor of celebrity news that will find (or pay for) scoops that open the kimono on the world of Hollywood.

But unlike "Access Hollywood" or "Entertainment Tonight," "TMZ" lets viewers in on the joke.

Five days a week, its reporters show up at work and the television lights come on above them and five cameras roam overhead as they discuss the "news" of the day. The newsroom is alive and buzzing about — well, let's face it, nothing very important.

No one pretends that they are covering the war in Afghanistan or the federal debt ceiling.

They are covering show business, with an emphasis on the "show."

It is a pleasure to watch, and a very guilty one at that. But it is also a daily indictment of our outsize fascination with celebrities. We are in on the joke, but we are implicated by it as well.

The website and the TV show are overseen by Harvey Levin, TMZ's founder and overlord. He runs the Web operation, and, for the purposes of the television show, presides over a newsroom of enthusiastic young reporters and producers. He bounces on his toes as he asks them what can be told that day about the famous and the infamous.

What is remarkable about the show is that it matters little what celebrities have done and not done. It's hunting them down and

sticking a camera in their face that makes for good television.

This is a newsroom where the news is often beside the point.

Anyone who has worked in a newsroom will tell you that it is not an intrinsically interesting place. Phone calls. Fact-checking.

Meetings. But "TMZ" makes it tough to look away. Accidentally land on "TMZ" while surfing though channels and you will, in spite of yourself, get sucked in by that throbbing bass line and the jumpy camera that sees all (and illuminates nothing). Stick around a bit

A lawyer and impresario, he has performed the rather unusual parlor trick of turning a website into a television show.

A tiny, fat-free ball of energy — he goes to the gym at 4 a.m. before arriving for work — he has no shame, takes no prisoners, and loves running the room.

Last Thursday morning, he was holding forth for the cameras and his reporters, clearly suggesting that a newsroom that snacks on celebrities is an extraordinary place to be.

For those who don't know, or admit to knowing, what TMZ is, it stands for Thirty Mile

Not especially surprising. She is young and impetuous. But "TMZ" pointed out that while, yes, it was sort of naughty that she was drinking and throwing parties while under house arrest, the judge never stipulated that she had to refrain from alcohol, only controlled substances.

End of story, except on "TMZ," the television show. On television, her narrative becomes a fable, a storied look at La Lohan and her sad, inexorable journey to the bottom of our culture. She may end up back in jail (best case) or back in a hospital (bad for her, but

ents. Buy. Sell. Trade. Levin closed story after story. Yes, he would hold off on one bit if the publicist was willing to show a little leg on something else.

On Levin's desk a fish named Ribeye swam back and forth in a tiny aquarium. Ribeye has 5,000 followers on Twitter, and knows the score. While he doesn't have an agent, it seems only a matter of time.

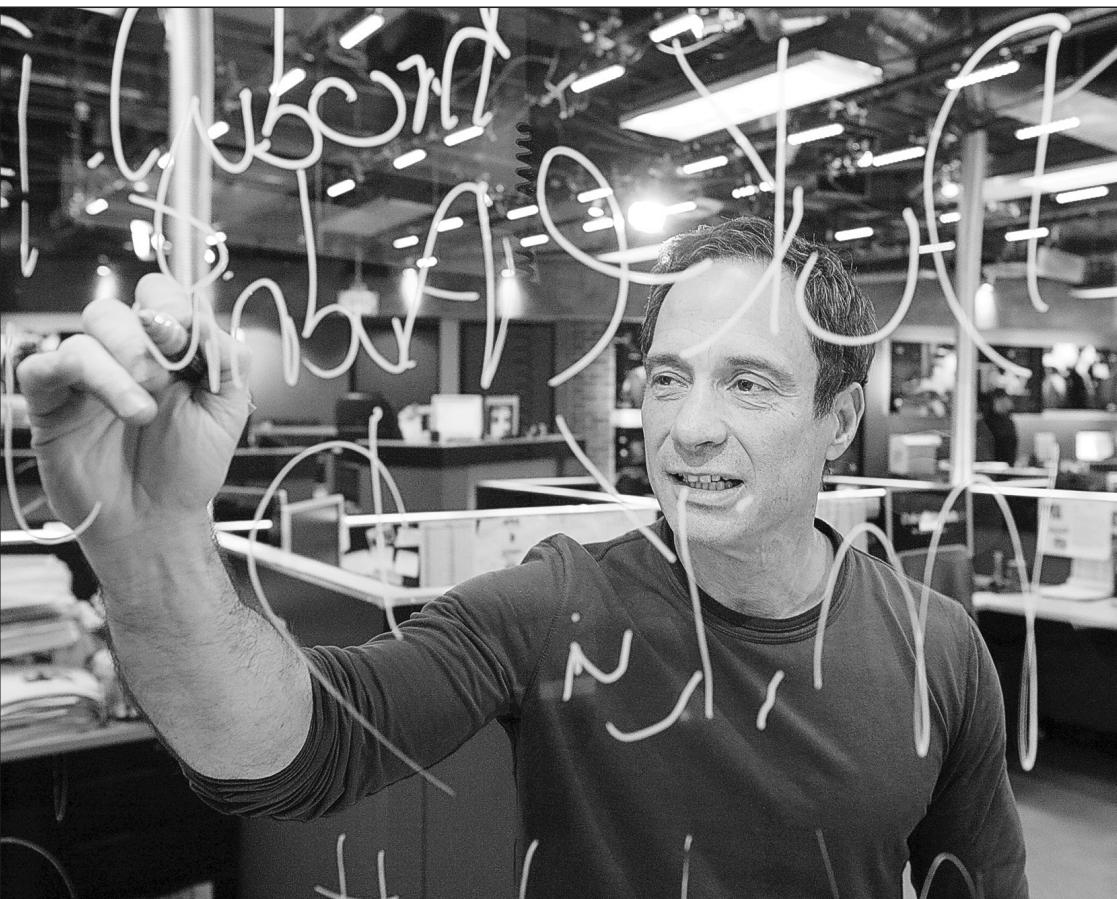
Levin says that "TMZ," both the television show and the website, is a necessary force.

"It is trite to say so, but TMZ is a brand," he said. "What happens on the Web is what we really do, but the television show is an attempt to capture that voice. I always thought that our morning meetings were interesting, and now we are letting people have a look at we do."

You be the judge. On Thursday, there was an item about Milli Vanilli, and people in the room remarked on the resemblance between the lip-syncing rapper and Charles Latibeaudiere, the show's co-executive producer who wears mad dreadlocks and a skeptical air. The comments were biting, funny and sort of dead on.

Latibeaudiere went along with the joke. The camera lingered on him while everyone else had a big laugh. I was sitting by Ribeye at the time, and he seemed into it. "People tune in because they want to be entertained, they want to be in on the joke, which is great," Latibeaudiere said. "But what I don't think they understand is that when we are finished making the show, every single one of those people has a real job."

On Thursday, the job was all about Lindsay. And Ribeye. He, too, had a bit on the show — something about his Twitter account and the way he shakes his tail. The difference between a fish swimming on Levin's desk and a young woman who paddles her way through the treacherous waters of Hollywood's celebrity culture seemed to get smaller as the day proceeded. □



you and you will get sucked in by the voiceover promising you tatty delights right after the break. Coming right up: Ed Begley Jr. at the airport.

I care nothing of Ed Begley and could not name his last project on a bet, but I can't help myself, sitting with hand poised above the remote, feeling guilty and implicated by my decision to spend quality time with "TMZ."

I'm not alone. The show has proved wildly popular, feeding off of a website that gets 20 million unique visitors a month, according to ComScore.

If there's a formula for that, it is one that only Levin seems to know.

Zone, the traditional epicenter of Hollywood movie-making that now produces all that ineffable celebrity heat the rest of us stare at. TMZ, the website, which is owned and operated by Time Warner even though neither brings that up a lot, does not fool around.

Midway through the day last Wednesday, Lindsay Lohan, the ground zero of gossip, was in a Los Angeles courtroom, accused of existing while intoxicated. For most of the morning, people in the newsroom were dipping their beak in on the story and checking with Levin about how to proceed.

The fact that she failed her urine test for alcohol?

good for the story, right?), but it is the hunt, the activity of standing outside the courthouse and watching her make that perp walk, that matters.

"I root for her," Levin said during a rare free moment. "She had it rough growing up, really rough." As he talks, his knee bounces up and down and his cursor moves over the website, which is where TMZ breaks news and, sometimes, careers.

He seems to care deeply about Lindsay, even as he feeds her into the wood chipper.

During the show and the subsequent editing, Levin took calls from publicists who represent Big Deal cli-

# LOCAL

## Aruba TODAY



### U.S. increases financial support to Caribbean

The United States will be increasing its financial support to the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI) with US\$77 million in funding committed for the coming year.

US Secretary of State, Hilary Rodham Clinton, made the announcement at a press conference held this week at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Montego Bay following high-level talks with Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Foreign Ministers. She said that the amount represents an increase of more than 70 percent over the US\$45 million allocated in the first year of implementation in 2010.

"This support is just one piece of our broader regional security issues that we are tackling," Clinton said. "We are pleased with the progress that we have made so far and optimistic about what we can accomplish in the future."

One of the initiatives to come out of the inaugural Caribbean-United States Security Cooperation Dialogue held in Washington, DC on May 27, 2010, the CBSI brings all members of CARICOM and the Dominican Republic together to jointly collaborate on regional security issues with the US as a partner.

The aim is to develop a joint strategy to tackle the full range of security and criminal threats to the Caribbean basin.

Focus is placed on tackling the illicit trafficking of drugs and guns; advancing public safety and security through programs to reduce crime and violence and improve border security; and promoting social justice through justice sector reform, combating government corruption, and assistance to vulnerable populations at risk of recruitment into criminal organizations. □

### Step by Step Dance Studios present Dance with Distinction School celebrating 19 years of existence



**ORANJESTAD** - Cas di Cultura, Aruba's cultural center and theater, was the location for Step by Step's Dance Studio's annual recital this past weekend. "Dance with Distinction" was just that - a fabulously well-done show, with spectacular costumes, talented performers, and fabulous mu-

sic. Each dance flowed into the next, keeping moving the entire time, and was thoroughly enjoyable to watch, as it was very professionally done. The classical Ballet was beautiful, the Jazz and Tap were fun to watch, the Flamenco and Tango were stunning, and the modern and street

dance were amazing. It was a joy to watch! Each year the show is better and better – with a vast array of dances to watch. They even included a modern number from Club di Movimiento with 2 of their best dancers.

**Continued on Page 16**

### Go Red Affair raises awareness for women



**ORANJESTAD** - Baptist Health South Florida International Services and the Aruba Heart Foundation (AHF) presented the Go Red Affair Aruba on June 11, 2011. The goal of the event was to raise awareness about women and heart disease, prevention methods and treatment options available through Baptist Health South Florida International Services.

L to R: Shirley Lo-A-Njoe, M.D., pediatric cardiologist in Curaçao, Kathleen Tuitt, Caribbean representative Baptist Health, Carlos van Leeuwen, M.D., vice president AHF, Mrs. Velma Daal, president AHF, Mrs. Selimah Maduro, treasurer AHF, Mrs. Sara Marugg, secretary AHF, Rollyn Angela, M.D., board member AHF, Mrs. Geraldine Baptiste-Tromp, dietitian, Mrs. Margaret John, board member AHF, Yvonne Turner Johnson, M.D., director of Heart Attack Unit at South Miami Hospital. □

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## ARA's fundraising bike ride a great success

**ORANJESTAD** - The fundraising bike ride for the Animal Rights Aruba (ARA) foundation, which helps alleviate the suffering of abused and maltreated animals on the island, was a resounding success. More than 100 participants stood at the ready last Sunday morning for the early, 8 am start. Among them were youngest participant Soebaia, who had herself transported in a comfortable seat on the back of her father's bicycle, several impressive juniors, the tough guys of the 'Dikke Buiken Club' and a surprising number of men in the 'Strakke Billen Club', the female counterpart for the Dikke Buiken (translated into Fat Bellies and Tight Behinds). Main sponsors of the terrific ride were De Suikertuin Restaurant with its fantastic sandwiches and awa Iamoenchi (lemonade), Tri-Bike with 20 bikes and the Marinierskazerne (Geert) with bikes and a broom wagon. The Sultana cookies were courtesy of Frasa and the water came from the Radisson Resort. At the start on the parking lot of the Marinierskazerne, the bikers were divided into three groups according to their level of experience. The beginners took the road into San Nicolas, the Colony and the North Coast, where they met up with the fast-paced Dikke Buiken and the Strakke Billen for an early, but much-needed 10 a.m. lunch break beneath the overhang at Fontein. After that, there were just a few bone breaking hills in Arikok National Park before the long stretch down towards the Marinierskazerne in Sava-



neta. Sunburned, wind-blown and tired but happy, the participants went home again before noon. The board of the ARA wishes to thank everybody who cycled along, the people who came to donate money without participating, De Suikertuin Restaurant, Tri-Bike, the Mariniers, Frasa and Radisson for their support. A special mention is for Magic FM's Erin Croes, who graciously donated a radio jingle to promote the event. The ARA Bike Ride was a blast! □



## Foundation recognizes those who helped with the Anne Frank statue



**ORANJESTAD** - Fundacion Respeta Bida...Semper Corda would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to all the Government instances, in particular the Ministry of General Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and Education, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Social Affairs and Culture, the Ministry of Integration, Infrastructure and Environment, corporations, banks, hotels, airlines, store directors, agencies, school children and, above all, the people of

Aruba. You volunteered time, lent your efforts, gave us generous financial support and personal encouragement, making it possible for us to realize our first project, the statue of Anne Frank at Wilhelmina Park, in the heart of Oranjestad. Anne's statue will remind future generations to preserve their freedom and always respect the rights of their fellow man. It will be a catalyst for tolerance and greater compassion. To all of you who opened

your hearts to this project and, in doing so, reached ours,  
Masha Danki!

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## Color the donkeys crazy!



**ORANJESTAD** - The Donkey Sanctuary of Aruba has come up with a great activity for the summer holidays. Children are very welcome on Wednesday mornings when they will be painting their own tee-shirts. Sitting between the donkeys in their lovely surroundings the kids can go wild creatively; enjoy a soft drink and an ice cream under the watchful eyes of our volunteers. You can drop off your offspring every Wednesday for AWG. 20. --. For this amount they get the drink, the ice cream and the tee-

shirt. Kids are welcome from 11 am to paint, but they can come earlier too. Then they can help feed the donkeys, clean the water troughs and, yes, clean up the poopoo. The dates for the creative donkey mornings are July 6, 13, 20 and 27 and August 3 and 10. Please register quickly, as our maximum is ten kids.

Registration can be done via [desiree@arubadonkey.org](mailto:desiree@arubadonkey.org) or via 593-2933, but also via Facebook (donkey sanctuary aruba). Just do it! □

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# Step by Step Dance Studios present Dance with Distinction



Continued from Page 13

The 19 year old dance studio of Sonja Geevers and Humphrey Lauffer is going strong, with a large number of students studying all dance disciplines. They employ the following teachers: Gayle Hagedoorn for Jazz and Tap, Tita Schaafsmma for Flamenco (she also performs tap and jazz), Diantha Maduro for Modern, Celene Croes for children's



## U.S. Government releases 2011 Trafficking in Persons Report

Yesterday, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton announced the release of the U.S. Government's annual Trafficking in Persons Report, which included the first ever ratings for Curacao and Aruba. The Netherlands Antilles was rated in 2009 and 2010. As Secretary Clinton said, "Modern slavery – be it bonded labor, involuntary servitude, or sexual slavery – is a crime and cannot be tolerated in any culture, community, or country ... [It] is an affront to our values and our commitment to human rights."

In this new report, Curacao was ranked Tier Two Watch list, because it does not fully comply with the minimum standards to combat human trafficking. However, Curacao is making significant efforts to come into compliance with those stan-

dards, including legislation which would criminalize human trafficking.

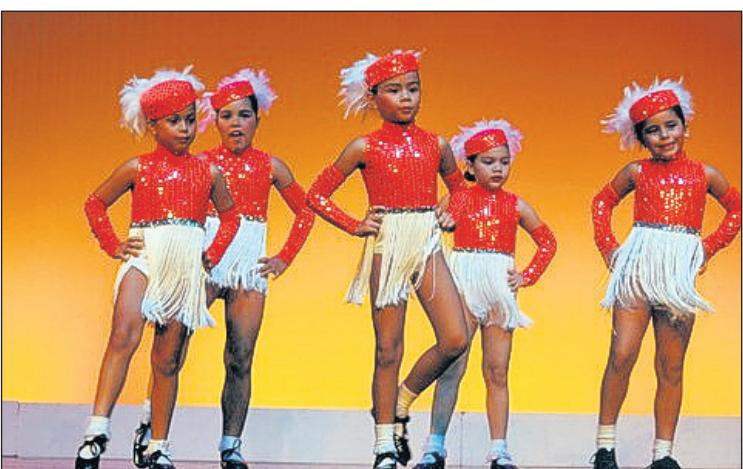
For 2011, Aruba was ranked Tier Two. Although Aruba has criminalized human trafficking, no cases have yet been prosecuted. Aruba also needs to improve screening and formalize victim protection policies.

The U.S. Consulate and the U.S. Government stand ready to assist both the Governments of Curacao and Aruba in their efforts to combat human trafficking.

Each TIP Report narrative contains specific recommendations for governments to consider implementing over the coming year. Full copies of the 2011 reports on Aruba and Curacao are attached and can also be found at <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2011/index.htm>. □

ballet & tap, Orwin Gomes for Street Dance, & children's Tap and Jazz, and Gerard Halley for Fusion. Gerard is also a guest dancer in the Kenny G number. Step by Step will start up

again in early September with a wide range of classes at different times. They are located in Tanki Leendert above Amadeus Restaurant, and will be open then in the mid-afternoons. □





## Sheriff Stewart: Assuming the role NASCAR's traffic cop

Tony Stewart drives through a corner during the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race Sunday, June 26, 2011, at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, Calif.

Associated Press

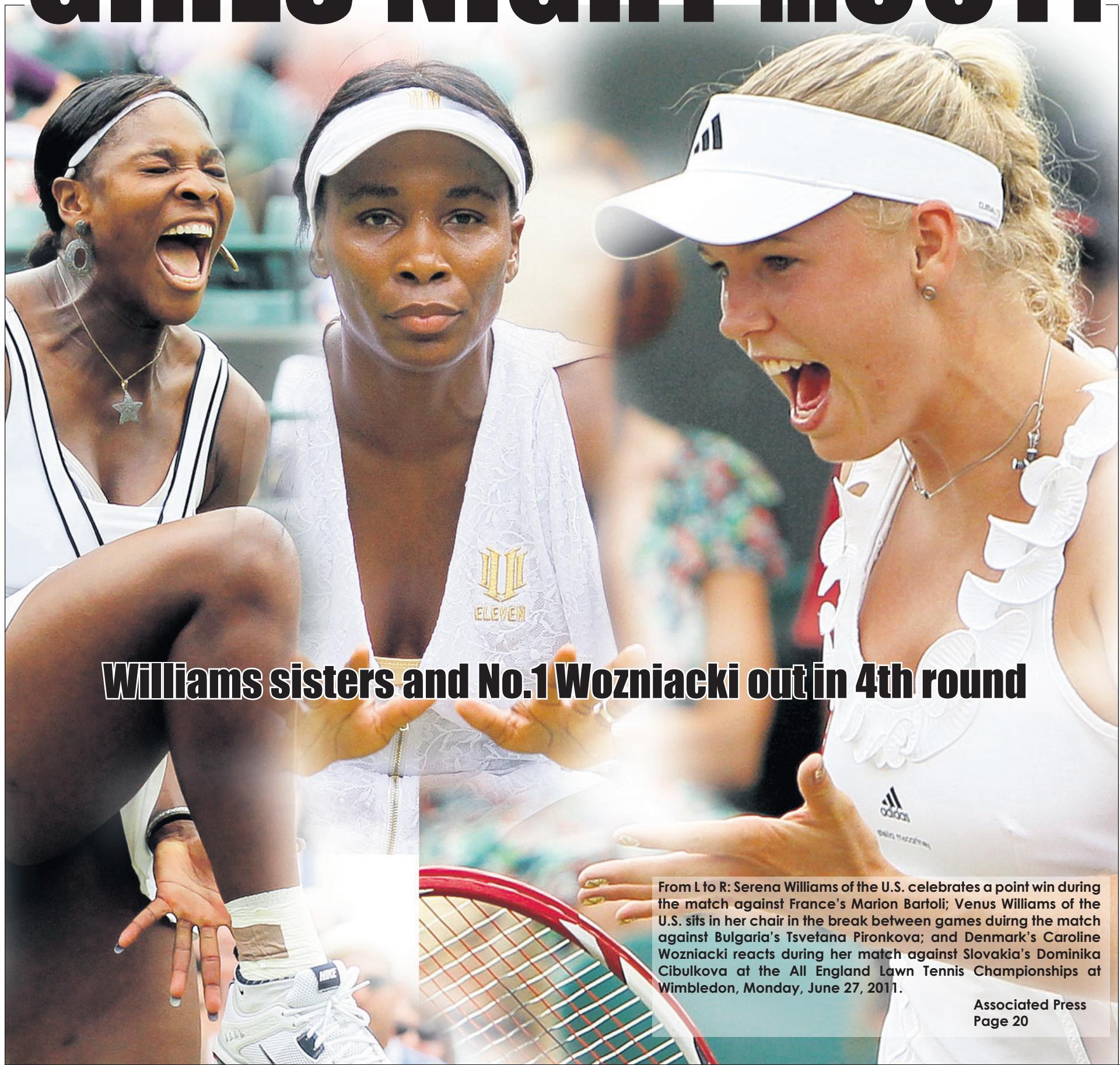
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# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY



# GIRLS NIGHT...OUT!



### Williams sisters and No.1 Wozniacki out in 4th round

From L to R: Serena Williams of the U.S. celebrates a point win during the match against France's Marion Bartoli; Venus Williams of the U.S. sits in her chair in the break between games during the match against Bulgaria's Tsvetana Pironkova; and Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki reacts during her match against Slovakia's Dominika Cibulkova at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, Monday, June 27, 2011.

Associated Press  
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# L.A. Dodgers file for bankruptcy protection

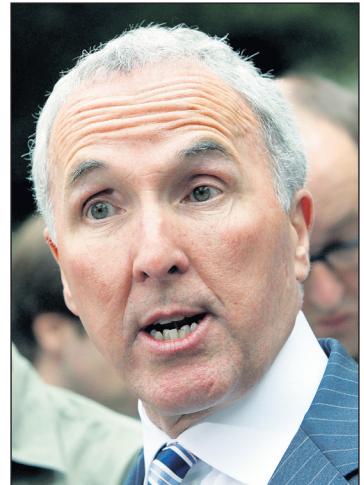
BETH HARRIS  
GREG RISLING  
Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — One of baseball's proudest franchises is in tatters, its future to be decided more in the courtroom than on the field. The Los Angeles Dodgers filed for bankruptcy protection in a Delaware court Monday, blaming Major League Baseball for refusing to approve a multi-billion-dollar TV deal that owner Frank McCourt was counting on to keep the troubled franchise afloat. McCourt, upset that baseball Commissioner Bud Selig rejected the proposed TV deal last week, hopes a federal judge will approve \$150 million in financing to be used for daily operations, which would give him more time to seek a more favorable media contract. A hearing is set for Tuesday. "The action taken today by Mr. McCourt does nothing but inflict further harm to this historic franchise," Selig said in a statement.

The team is bleeding red ink instead of Dodger blue, with former players owed millions. Even beloved Hall of Fame announcer Vin Scully is owed more than \$150,000 as part of his contract, court documents show. The filing by a cash-starved McCourt comes just days before he was expected to miss a team payroll on Thursday and possibly be confronted with an MLB takeover. Legal observers expect MLB to contest McCourt's request for filing bankruptcy, arguing the dispute should remain within the confines of baseball. Baseball's constitution allows Selig to take control of a team that seeks Chapter 11 protection. MLB would have to file a motion to seek termination of the franchise.

A person familiar with the filing, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the situation is still in flux, said MLB will wait to see what happens in the hearing before deciding which way to go. The main issue

is whether "the bankruptcy court maintains control of the proceedings or acquiesce to baseball," said Edward Ristaino, who chairs the sports practice at the law firm Akerman Senterfitt. The Baltimore Orioles in 1993 and the Texas Rangers last year were sold in federal bankruptcy court, though in neither case did MLB seize the team first. In 2009, the Chicago Cubs went into bankruptcy for several weeks as part of the sales process after Tribune Co. agreed to sell the team to the family of billionaire Joe Ricketts. "For somebody who grew up as a Dodger fan since he was 6 in Brooklyn, this makes me very, very sad," said Bob Daley, the Dodgers' managing partner when Rupert Murdoch's Fox Corp. sold the team to McCourt in 2004.



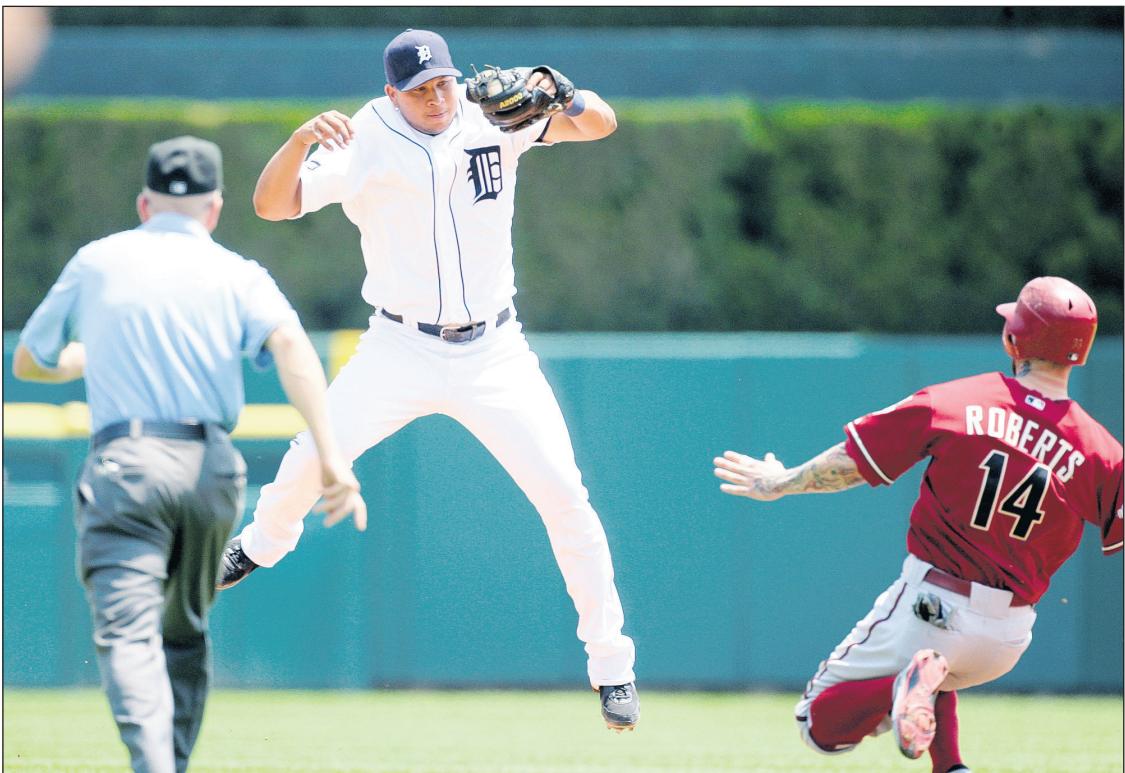
In this June 17, 2011 file photo, Los Angeles Dodgers owner Frank McCourt speaks to reporters outside court in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

The Boston-accented real estate developer bought the team in a highly leveraged \$430 million deal that was the second-highest for a baseball team at the time.

He became just the fourth owner in franchise history, and the sale marked the return of the team to family ownership, although the McCourt clan has been nothing like the O'Malleys. The O'Malleys owned the Dodgers or a stake in them for more than 50 years, an old-fashioned tenure of stability and tradition. □

# Tigers stun Diamondbacks



**Detroit Tigers shortstop Jhonny Peralta, center, comes down with the pickoff throw from first baseman Miguel Cabrera in time to tag out Arizona Diamondbacks' Ryan Roberts (14) at second base in an interleague baseball game on Sunday, June 26, 2011 in Detroit. Umpire Mike Everitt, left, makes the call.**

Associated Press

**DETROIT (AP)** — The Detroit Tigers scored seven runs with two outs in the eighth inning to beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 8-3 in Major League Baseball interleague play on Sunday. Miguel Cabrera hit a go-ahead single and the Detroit Tigers scored seven runs with two outs in the eighth inning. The Tigers trailed 2-1 when Don Kelly singled with one out in the eighth off reliever Aaron Heilman (4-1). After a second out, two walks loaded the bases, and Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run single to put Detroit ahead. There were further RBI singles to Victor Martinez and Jhonny Peralta. Brandon Inge hit a two-run single to make it 7-2, and Kelly reached on an error, with another run scoring. Al Alburquerque (5-1) pitched 1 1-3 innings of scoreless relief for Detroit.

## Giants 3, Indians 1

In San Francisco, Madison Bumgarner bounced back from a poor start with one of his best performances, striking out a career-high 11 batters in seven innings to lead San Francisco over Cleveland.

Bumgarner (4-9) showed no lingering effects from his historically bad outing against Minnesota on Tuesday when he became the first

pitcher since 1900 to give up nine hits and record just one out in a game.

Chris Stewart hit a two-run double for his first RBIs in more than four years and Aubrey Huff added an run-scoring single for the Giants, who have won five straight. Indians starter Fausto Carmona (4-10) lost for the seventh time in eight decisions, giving up seven hits in six innings.

## Phillies 3, Athletics 1

In Philadelphia, Roy Halladay pitched his National League-leading fifth complete game to guide Philadelphia past Oakland.

Halladay (10-3) walked none and struck out four in tying for the major league high in victories. Philadelphia has won each of Halladay's past eight starts. He improved to 30-3 in 35 starts in which the Phillies have given him the lead. Jimmy Rollins went 4-for-4, scoring twice, Placido Polanco had two hits and Halladay added a single for Philadelphia. A's starter Josh Outman (3-2), a former Phillies minor leaguer, allowed eight hits in six innings to take the loss.

## Red Sox 4, Pirates 2

In Pittsburgh, Boston won its first game in five, downing Pittsburgh.

Andrew Miller (1-0) got his first win with Boston, striking

out four and allowing just one earned run. Recently promoted from the minors, he earned his first AL victory since 2007 with Detroit. Adrian Gonzalez had two hits for Boston and raised his batting average to .361, tops in the majors. Yet the Red Sox won by doing the little things, scoring their four runs on a Pittsburgh error, a pair of sacrifice flies and an RBI groundout.

The Pirates tied a season worst with four errors.

Tim Wood (0-2) lost as Pittsburgh's normally reliable bullpen showed signs of stress following a busy week.

## Yankees 6, Rockies 4

In New York, Eduardo Nunez hit a tiebreaking single in the seventh inning after a Troy Tulowitzki error as New York beat Colorado.

**In other AL games it was Detroit 8, Arizona 3; Boston 4, Pittsburgh 2; Baltimore 7, Cincinnati 5; Philadelphia 3, Oakland 1; N.Y. Yankees 6, Colorado 4; Tampa Bay 14, Houston 10; Kansas City 6, Chicago Cubs 3; Milwaukee 6, Minnesota 2; Washington 2, Chicago White Sox 1; Toronto 5, St. Louis 0; N.Y. Mets 8, Texas 5; L.A. Dodgers 3, L.A. Angels 2; San Francisco 3, Cleveland 1; and Seattle 2, Florida 1, 10 innings. □**

# Stewart shouldn't be NASCAR's traffic cop

By JENNA FRYER  
AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — It's probably not the best time for Tony Stewart to assume the role of NASCAR's traffic cop.

The two-time champion continued his slide in the Sprint Cup Series standings Sunday at Infineon Raceway, where a 39th-place finish dropped him to 12th in points. It was an unacceptable outcome for Stewart, who had a car capable of contending for the win but had his day end when Brian Vickers intentionally sent the Chevrolet into a stack of tires.

It was payback for Stewart wrecking Vickers earlier in the race, and Stewart understood — maybe even accepted — Vickers' motivation. But he was unapologetic and insisted that he was right in initiating the chain of events that led to his wrecked race car. "I probably had it coming because I dumped him earlier, but I dumped him because he was blocking," Stewart said. "If they want to block, that's what is going to happen to them every time for the rest of my career."

That's probably not the best attitude to have

when your championship chances are suddenly on the line. The smarter thinking would probably be to race safe, to protect strong finishes and find a way to climb off the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship bubble.

Yet this is how it goes sometimes with Stewart, who has a low tolerance for competitors who he deems are "driving like idiots." This kind of thing has happened before, and it seems to stem from Stewart's own frustration. He's had plenty of that this season, beginning with a disappointing end to the Daytona 500.

In position to finally win NASCAR's biggest race of the year by lining up second on the final restart of the race, Stewart was instead beaten by 20-year-old Trevor Bayne and faded to 13th over the last two laps. Cautions cost him a win the next week at Phoenix, and a team mistake on pit road ruined a dominating run the next week at Las Vegas.

Three chances to win, and nothing to show for it.

Those goose eggs are a tough pill to swallow now, as teams jockey



Personnel work to free Tony Stewart's car from the tires on the outside of Turn 11 during the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race Sunday, June 26, 2011, at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, Calif.

Associated Press

for position in NASCAR's new points system. Only the top 10 drivers in points will earn automatic berths into the Chase, with the final two wild cards being set aside for the highest ranking drivers with the most wins.

Right now, Stewart would be safe because Brad Keselowski, with one win, wouldn't be eligible to bump Stewart because he's ranked 22nd in points. But Keselowski is only 12 points away from cracking the top-20, and thus bumping the 12th-place driver from the Chase. So one would think that situation, and not policing on-track etiquette,

would be Stewart's bigger concern.

Yet Stewart seems hell-bent right now on enforcing an unspoken code of conduct between drivers.

"I don't know if its lack of respect or guys just pushing the envelope and not working with each other," Stewart said. "There wasn't any reason at that point of the race where he started blocking in the first place. It didn't make sense to do it and I'm not going to tolerate it. I don't race guys that way and I'm not going to let anybody race me that way.

"So if they block they get dumped. Plain and sim-

ple."

But in this new day of "Boys, have at it," Stewart will likely find that retribution is in every turn. For as adamant as Stewart was that he had every right to start this game with Vickers — who, by the way, denied blocking — Vickers was just as adamant that he was right to retaliate.

"He made his bed at that moment, and he had to sleep in it," Vickers said. "He made his move and I addressed it. It's a competitive environment and we all want to win. I don't know why he wrecked me. That was his decision to make. But I'm good." □

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daily: 4:15 - 7:00 - 9:30  
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matinee: 12:00 - 2:30 SP NEW PG

### BAD TEACHER

daily: 5:30 - 7:45 - 9:45  
matinee: 1:00 - 3:15  
late show: 12:00 R

### KUNG FU PANDA

daily: 4:45  
matinee: 12:15 - 2:30 SP PG

### MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS

daily: 4:00 - 6:45 - 9:15  
matinee: 1:15  
late show: 11:45 PG

### HANGOVER 2

daily: 5:17 - 7:30 - 9:45  
matinee: 12:45 - 3:00  
late show: 12:00 SP R

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## McIlroy gives Britain top 3 places in rankings



Newly crowned U.S. Open champion Rory McIlroy holds the trophy at Holywood golf club, Holywood, Northern Ireland, Wednesday, June 22, 2011.

Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — British golfers hold the top three spots in the world rankings for the first time in their 25-year history after Rory McIlroy rose to third Monday following his triumph at the U.S. Open.

Having started the year at No. 10, the Northern Irishman overtook PGA Championship holder Martin Kaymer on Monday without playing last weekend because of the German's poor showing at the BMW International Open.

English duo Luke Donald and Lee Westwood occupy the top two places. "We've fed off each other's success," McIlroy told Sky Sports TV. "We saw Lee get to No. 1 in the world and Luke has been very consistent for the last two years. We're working hard to beat one another and strive to be better than everyone else."

McIlroy won the U.S. Open by a record eight-shot margin at Congressional on June 19. His next tournament is the British Open at Royal St. George's in Sandwich, England, starting July 14.

McIlroy says he wants to keep playing well while Tiger Woods continues his recovery from an injured left leg. □

## Williams sisters and Wozniacki out in 4th round

STEPHEN WILSON

AP Sports Writer

**WIMBLEDON, England (AP)**

— Venus and Serena Williams were both eliminated in the fourth round of Wimbledon on Monday, the first time in five years that neither sister will play in the quarterfinals at the All England Club.

Defending champion and four-time winner Serena was the first to go, beaten 6-3, 7-6 (6) by Marion Bartoli of France, cutting short the American's return to Grand Slam tennis after nearly a year out with serious health problems.

Older sister and five-time champion Venus was ousted 6-2, 6-3 by Tsvetana Pironkova — the exact same score of the Bulgarian's win in last year's quarterfinals.

"Definitely not our best day," Venus said. "I think we both envisioned seeing this day going a little bit different."

Also knocked out was top-seeded Caroline Wozniacki, who fell 1-6, 7-6 (5), 7-5 to No. 24 Dominika Cibulkova in the Dane's latest failed attempt to win her first Grand Slam title.

Six-time men's champion Roger Federer survived a scare, dropping his first set of the tournament before coming back to down Mikhail Youzhny 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 to reach his 29th successive Grand Slam quarterfinal. Extending his career record against the Russian to 11-0, Federer had 54 winners, including 14 aces, and broke six times.

"I forgot completely (the 29th quarterfinal) was on the line to be quite honest, especially once you're in the heat of the moment, of the battle," said Federer, who also won his 100th match on grass. "I thought I played a good match overall."

Federer will next face No. 12 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France, who beat No. 7 David Ferrer 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (1). Top-seeded defending champion Rafael Nadal overcame a foot injury and outlasted Juan Martin del Potro 7-6 (6), 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-4 in a Centre Court battle



Spain's Rafael Nadal removes his shoe and sock during his match against Argentina's Juan Martin Del Potro at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, Monday, June 27, 2011.

Associated Press

that ended in fading light shortly after 9 p.m. local time.

Grimacing in pain, the Spaniard took a medical timeout after hurting his left foot while hitting a forehand in the game before the first-set tiebreaker. A trainer sprayed the foot and taped it up. Nadal fell behind 3-0 in the tiebreaker and was limping between points, but saved a set point at 6-5 down and took the tiebreaker on his fourth set point when Del Potro double-faulted.

Nadal said he initially thought he might have broken his foot and would have to retire from the match.

"I felt something that like crushed there in the back of the foot outside," he said, adding that the tape helped stabilize the foot for the rest of the match.

Nadal said he would undergo an MRI and was "worried" whether he would be fit for Wednesday's quarterfinal match

against Mardy Fish.

"I don't know," he said. "I cannot predict the future. ... Let's see what's going on and let's see how the MRI looks.

"And after, let's see if we have the chance to recover for Wednesday."

After winning the second set, Del Potro took his own medical timeout after slipping and falling at the baseline at 2-2 in the third, laying on the ground for several seconds and grabbing his left hip. After treatment in the locker room, Del Potro came back and didn't seem to be affected.

Nadal broke for the first time in the match to go up 3-2 in the fourth set with a forehand winner down the line. He maintained the advantage and served out the match at love after nearly four hours of play. Nadal finished with 61 winners to just 16 errors.

Venus and Serena have won nine of the last 11 titles at Wimbledon, and have

faced each other in four finals.

In 2006, Venus lost in the third round and Serena missed the tournament. This is the first year that, when both sisters were in the draw, both lost before the quarterfinals.

The last time the sisters lost on the same day at a Grand Slam was in 2008, when they fell in the third round at the French Open. "Obviously it's not something planned," Venus said. "We rarely lose on the same day."

With 2004 champion Maria Sharapova of Russia among those advancing Monday, it marks the first time since 1913 that all eight women's Wimbledon quarterfinalists are from Europe. On top of that, all eight come from different countries.

In men's play, second-seeded Novak Djokovic kept up his bid for a first Wimbledon title by beating Michael Llodra of France 6-3, 6-3, 6-3. The two-time Australian Open champion, who can replace Nadal as the top-ranked man in the world by reaching the final, lost in the semifinals last year.

Djokovic will next face 18-year-old Australian qualifier Bernard Tomic, who downed Xavier Malisse 6-1, 7-5, 6-4 to become the youngest man to make the Wimbledon quarterfinals since Boris Becker in 1986. Fourth-seeded Andy Murray swept Richard Gasquet of France 7-6 (3), 6-3, 6-2 — then took a deep bow to the Royal Box, where Prince William and his new bride Kate joined the rest of the crowd in giving the British winner a standing ovation.

"I was obviously very happy after the match," Murray said. "I think that was the right thing to do."

Murray, who has made the semifinals the last two years, is trying to become the first British man to win the title at the All England Club since Fred Perry in 1936. He met with the royal couple after the match.

"If I'd known they were coming, I would have shaved," □



## Canucks re-sign D Bieksa for 5 years, \$23 million

By KEVIN WOODLEY

For The Associated Press

**VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP)**—A person familiar with the deal says the Vancouver Canucks have signed defenseman Kevin Bieksa to a five-year, \$23 million contract extension on Monday, four days before he could have hit the open market as an unrestricted free agent.

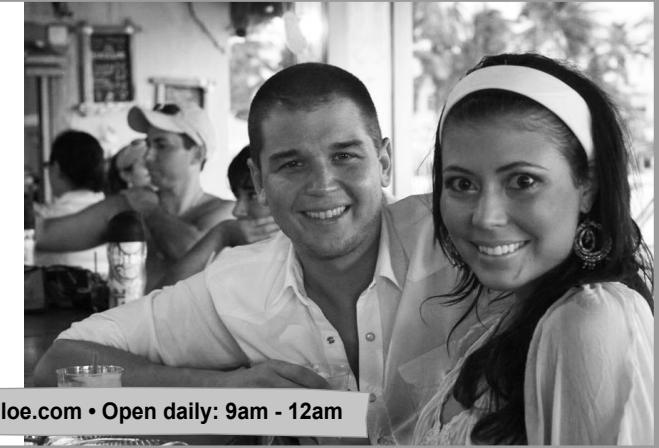
The person spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity Monday because the team had yet to announce the deal. Bieksa, who turned 30 on June 16, had six goals, 16 assists and was tied for second in the NHL with a plus-32 rating in 66 regular season games last season. He played his best hockey after being united with Dan Hamhuis on a defensive pairing that regularly went up against the opposition's best forwards down the stretch. Bieksa had five goals and five assists in 25 playoff games, including the Western Conference-clinching goal in double-overtime against the San Jose Sharks. Bieksa made \$3.5 million last season, and his new contract has an annual salary-cap hit of \$4.6 million. Originally selected in the fifth round of the 2001 NHL Draft out of Bowling Green, Bieksa has 34 goals and 113 assists in 347 games with the Canucks. He suffered a pair of serious skate cuts to his legs in 2007-08 and 2009-10, and only got back to full health last season. There was widespread speculation a year ago he would be traded to clear salary cap space, but that ended when fellow defenseman Sami Salo tore his Achilles' last summer, and Bieksa re-emerged as one of Vancouver's more reliable two-way defenders. □

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## MLS Roundup

# Sounders come from behind to beat Revs

**SEATTLE (AP)**—Tyson Wahl and Alvaro Fernandez scored six minutes apart late in the first half as the Seattle Sounders came from behind to beat the New England Revolution 2-1 in Major League Soccer on Sunday.

The Sounders won their season-high third straight game and are unbeaten in their past six. The Revolution have not won in seven games.

New England scored in the third minute, when Gambian midfielder Sainey Nyassi drilled in a shot following a corner for his first goal of the year.

Wahl's equalized in the 34th minute, notching his first MLS goal in some style. On a direct free kick from the edge of the box, he hit the ball over the wall, and it dipped under the crossbar into the top left corner. Uruguayan midfielder Fernandez scored the go-ahead goal midway through the 40th minute with his fourth goal of the season.

### Columbus Crew 4, Colorado Rapids 1

In Columbus, Andres Men-

doza scored twice as Columbus responded to an early setback to comfortably beat ten-man Colorado.

Rapids forward Conor Casey put the visitors ahead in the fifth minute, but Eddie Gaven equalized for Columbus in the 12th and the hosts went ahead through Peruvian striker Mendoza in the 18th.

Casey was sent off in the 29th minute for sliding knee-first into the head of Crew goalkeeper William Hesmer.

Mendoza's sixth goal in the past six games made it 3-1 in the 48th minute and Tommy Heinemann added his first MLS goal nine minutes later.

### Chicago Fire 1, New York Red Bulls 1

In Bridgeview, Illinois, Marco Pappa's long-distance goal in the 58th minute gave Chicago yet another draw, holding New York. The result extended Chicago's unbeaten string to seven matches, but only one of those was a win. The Red Bulls' winless streak reached three, although the point moved them



Seattle Sounders midfielder Mauro Rosales heads the ball past New England Revolution midfielder Pat Phelan during an MLS soccer match on Sunday, June 26, 2011, in Seattle.

Associated Press

within two of Philadelphia for the Eastern Conference lead.

New York's Joel Lindpere took advantage of a deflection to score from deep on the right side in the 40th

minute.

Chicago equalized when Guatemalan midfielder Pappa's 30-yard shot bounced over diving New York goalkeeper Bouna Coundoul. □

# NC St. national championship hero Lorenzo Charles killed

**RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)**—Former North Carolina State basketball star Lorenzo Charles, the muscular forward whose last-second dunk gave the underdog Wolfpack the 1983 national collegiate championship, was killed Monday when a bus he was driving crashed, a company official said Monday. Elite Coach general manager Brad Jackson said Charles, 47, worked for the company and was driving one of its buses on Interstate 40.

Raleigh police spokesman Jim Sughrue said no passengers were aboard. Charles secured his spot in N.C. State 28 years ago in the final moments of the Wolfpack's matchup with Houston in the national championship game. He grabbed Dereck Whittenburg's 30-foot shot and dunked it at the buzzer to give N.C. State a 54-52 win and its second national title, sending coach Jim Valvano spilling onto the court, scrambling for someone to hug in what has become one of the lasting images of the NCAA tournament. □

# FOR SALE



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# Diabetics get blood vessels made from donor cells

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE  
AP Medical Writer

Three dialysis patients have received the world's first blood vessels grown in a lab from donated skin cells.

It's a key step toward creating a supply of ready-to-use arteries and veins that could be used to treat diabetics, soldiers with damaged limbs, people having heart bypass surgery and others.

The goal is to one day have a refrigerated inventory of these in various sizes and shapes that surgeons could order up as needed like bandages and other medical supplies.

The work so far is still early-stage. Three patients in Poland have received the new vessels, which are working well two to eight months later. But doctors are excited because this builds on earlier success in about a dozen patients given blood vessels grown in the lab from their own skin — a process too long and expensive to be practical.

"This version, built from a master donor, is available off the shelf and at a dramatically reduced cost," estimated at \$6,000 to \$10,000, said Todd McAllister, chief of Cytograft Tissue Engineering Inc., the San Francisco-area company leading the work.

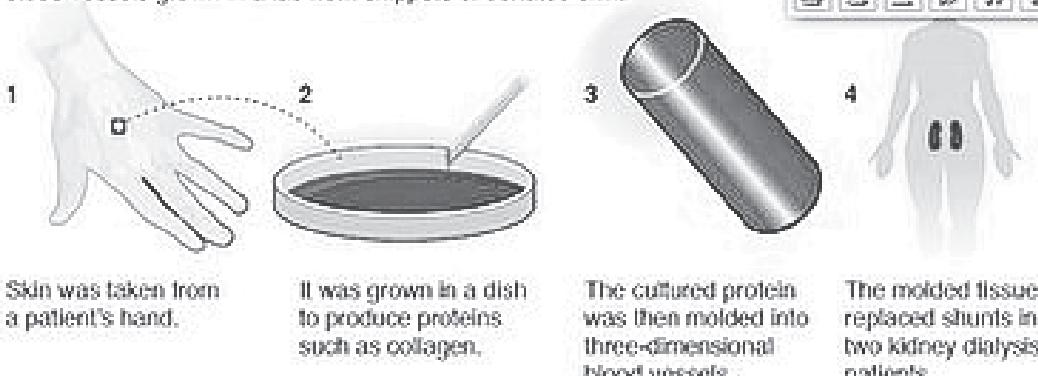
The American Heart Association considers it so promising that the group featured it on Monday in the first of a new series of webcasts about cutting-edge science.

"This is tremendously exciting," because the failure of blood vessels used in dialysis is "a huge public health problem," said Duke University's Dr. Robert Harrington, a heart expert who had no role in the work.

If a larger study getting

## Blood vessels grown in the lab

Three kidney dialysis patients have received the world's first blood vessels grown in a lab from snippets of donated skin.



SOURCE: Cytograft Tissue Engineering Inc.

tions include blood clots, clogging and infection. What's more, patients often run out of suitable sites for these shunts as problems develop. Plastic versions have high rates of failure and complications, too. Doctors have long wished for a natural substitute.

The lab-grown vessels are free of artificial materials. They don't involve stem cells, so they're not controversial.

Researchers start with a snip of skin from the back of a hand, remove cells and grow them into sheets of tissue that are rolled up like straws to form blood vessels. □

Illustration shows process of growing blood vessels in a lab.

under way now in Europe and South America shows success, "this is big news," Harrington said. Kidney failure, which is

common in diabetics, requires dialysis to filter wastes from the blood through a connection between an artery and

a vein called a shunt. It gets punctured several times a week to hook patients up to the dialysis machine, and complica-

## Too many blood transfusions? New standards urged

By LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Check into the hospital and you may get a blood transfusion you didn't really need.

There's a lot of variation around the country in how quick doctors are to order up a few pints — not in cases of trauma or hemorrhage where infusing blood fast can be life-saving, but for a range of other reasons.

Anemia is common in older patients, for example, who may get a transfusion as an easy boost even when the anemia's too mild to matter or instead of treating the underlying problem. Need open-heart surgery or another complex operation? There are steps surgeons could take to minimize blood loss instead of trying to replace it later.

Now a government advisory committee is calling for national standards on when a transfusion is needed — and how to conserve this precious resource.

All the variability shows "there is both excessive and inappropriate use of blood transfusions in the U.S.," advisers to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius concluded earlier this month. "Improvements in rational use of blood have lagged." Blood banks welcome the idea, important as they try to balance how to keep just enough blood on the shelves without it going

bad or running short.

"Better patient care is what's being advocated here," says Dr. Richard Benjamin, chief medical officer of the American Red Cross. "If a transfusion is not necessary, all you can do is harm."

The U.S. uses a lot of blood, more than 14 million units of red blood cells a year. Between 1994 and 2008, blood use climbed 40 percent, Benjamin told the HHS Advisory Committee on Blood Safety and Availability. In many years, parts of the country experienced spot shortages as blood banks struggled to bring in enough donors to keep up.

Surprisingly, blood use dropped a bit with the recession, roughly 6 percent over two years, Benjamin says. He couldn't say why. That dip has leveled off, but specialists say demand is sure to rise again in coming years as the population rapidly grays and people who once were prime donors become more ill and frail.

Right now, overall donation levels are good with one exception, Benjamin says: There's a big need for more Type O-negative blood, especially as banks prepare for the usual summertime donor drop. Few donors are Type O negative, but it's compatible with all other blood types and hospitals have begun using more of it in recent years.

What's the evidence for avoidable transfusions?

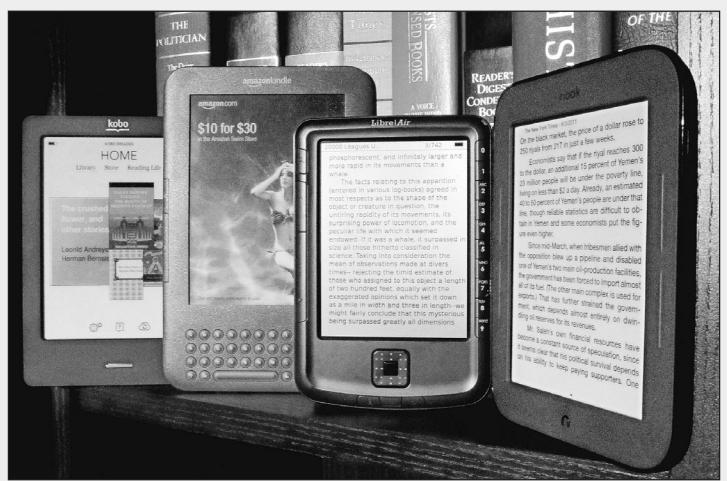
One study published last fall tracked more than 100,000 people who underwent open-heart surgery, a transfusion-heavy operation. Just 8 percent of those patients received transfusions at some hospitals, while a startling 93 percent did at other hospitals. But survival wasn't significantly different at hospitals that used more blood than at hospitals that used less.

That's important, because transfusions are not risk-free. While the risk of HIV or other viruses is very rare in blood today, people also can experience allergic-style transfusion reactions and other complications, sometimes fatal ones.

Another study last fall examined Medicare patients who received blood for various reasons over a 10-year period, and found those who live in the South are the most likely to get a transfusion and those who live in the West are the least likely.

Overall, the U.S. uses about 49 units of blood for every 1,000 patients, substantially more than Canada or Britain where those transfusion rates are in the 30s, Benjamin says.

One solution that the HHS advisers urged the government to explore: Some hospitals have begun what's called "patient blood management," instituting their own guidelines on when a transfusion is avoidable. □



The Kobo eReader Touch, an Amazon Kindle, an Aluratek Libre Air, and a Barnes & Noble Nook, left to right, are displayed in this photo, in New York, Tuesday, June 14, 2011. When the Kindle was new, in 2007, it cost \$399. Now, e-book readers, including a Kindle, can be had for just north of \$100.

## Study: 12 percent of U.S. households own e-reader

By PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK** — A study finds that 12 percent of U.S. households now own a reading device for electronic books, such as Amazon's Kindle. That's three times the number of households that owned an e-reader just a year ago, pointing to rapid acceptance. The phone survey was conducted in April and May by the Pew Internet and American Life Project. Prices for e-readers have fallen rapidly over the past year. Barnes & Noble's Nook is growing as a competitor to the Kindle. The cheapest models are now available for just above \$100. The survey also found that ownership of tablet computers such as the iPad has doubled over the past year to 8 percent of households. The survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points. □

## Google chief warns of crackdown

**DUBLIN (AP)** — Google chairman Eric Schmidt says democracy movements across the Arab world may lead to governments restricting Internet access. Schmidt says governments are growing more wary of the Web as their citizens become technologically savvy. He says some governments are trying to regulate the Internet the way they regulate television. There has been friction between Google Inc. and Chinese authorities, who have tried to limit the web pages citizens can access. Google has tried to bypass the problem by moving servers to Hong Kong. Schmidt says Google cannot always defy governments because it has to protect its employees in the country. Schmidt spoke Monday at a conference on extremism organized by Google, the Tribeca Film Festival and the Council on Foreign Relations. □

## U.S. to protect business websites

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Businesses facing a growing threat of cyberattacks against their websites will now have more tools to protect themselves and harden their Internet sites against hackers. A new Homeland Security Department program will help small companies and non-profit groups avoid programming problems that allow hackers to get into their websites. The government's latest cybersecurity effort comes on the heels of a series of high-profile hacking attacks against corporate and federal websites, including one that shut down the CIA's site for several hours last week. The new program was developed with the Mitre Corp. and is an effort to shore up known weaknesses in programming that give hackers a backdoor into websites. □

# AP EXCLUSIVE: Power grid change may disrupt clocks



In this Oct. 10, 2005 file photo, UPS delivery man Chris Carhart of South Boston, wheels packages past a store window featuring clocks at Quincy Market in Boston.

Associated Press

SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Our power supply has been so precise that we've set our clocks by it. But time may be running out on that idea. A yearlong experiment with the electric grid may make plug-in clocks and devices like coffeemakers with programmable timers run up to 20 minutes fast. The group that oversees the U.S. power grid is proposing a change that has the potential to disrupt electric clocks in schools, hospitals and other institutions, according to a company presentation obtained by The Associated Press. It may also mess with the timing of traffic lights, security systems, sprinklers and some personal computer software and hardware.

Since 1930, electric clocks have kept time based on the rate of the electrical current that powers them. If the current slips off its usual rate, clocks run a little fast or slow. Power companies now take steps to correct it and keep the frequency of the current — and the time — as precise as possible. The experiment would allow more frequency variation than it does now without corrections. Officials

say they want to try this to make the power supply more reliable, save money and reduce what may be needless efforts. The test is tentatively set to start in mid-July, but that could change.

Tweaking the power grid's frequency is expensive and takes a lot of effort, said Joe McClelland, head of electric reliability for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

"Is anyone using the grid to keep track of time?" McClelland said. "Let's see if anyone complains if we eliminate it."

They will and they should, timekeepers say.

"A lot of people are going to have things break and they're not going to know why," said Demetrios Matsakis, head of the time service department at the U.S. Naval Observatory, one of two official timekeeping agencies in the federal government.

The changes, however, are out of the hands of timekeepers and in control of officials who supply the electrical power.

No one is quite sure what will be affected. This won't change the clocks in cellphones, GPS systems or even on computers, and it

won't have anything to do with official U.S. time or Internet time.

But wall clocks and those on ovens and coffeemakers — anything that flashes "12:00" when it loses power — may be just a bit off every second, and that error can grow with time.

It's not easy figuring what will run fast and what won't. For example, VCRs or DVRs that get their time from cable systems or the Internet probably won't be affected, but those with clocks tied to the electric current will be off a bit, Matsakis said. This will be an interesting experiment to see how dependent our timekeeping is on the power grid, Matsakis said. The North American Electric Reliability Corp. runs the nation's interlocking web of transmission lines and power plants. A June 14 company presentation spelled out the potential effects of the change: East Coast clocks may run as much as 20 minutes fast over a year, but West Coast clocks are only likely to be off by 8 minutes. In Texas, it's only an expected speed-up of 2 minutes. Some parts of the grid, like in the East, tend to run faster than others. Errors add up. □

# Nissan aims for 8 percent of global market

YURI KAGEYAMA

AP Business Writer

YOKOHAMA, Japan (AP)

— Nissan Chief Executive Carlos Ghosn unveiled an ambitious six-year plan for growth Monday, including a target of boosting the carmaker's share of the global auto market to 8 percent.

Nissan Motor Corp. hopes to reach the market share target in the fiscal year ending March 2017, in part by focusing on growth in countries such as China, Brazil, Russia and India.

Nissan had a record 5.8 percent market share in the fiscal year ended March 2011.

"We are definitely on the offensive," Ghosn said at the automaker's Yokohama headquarters.

The plan underlines how Nissan is readying for expansion despite the production disruptions from the March 11 earthquake and tsunami that are pro-



Nissan Motors Corp. President and CEO Carlos Ghosn speaks during a press conference at the Nissan head office in Yokohama, near Tokyo, Monday, June 27, 2011.

Associated Press

jected to drag profit down 15.4 percent to 270 billion yen (\$3.4 billion) for the fiscal year through March 2012.

The maker of the March subcompact, Leaf electric

vehicle and Infiniti luxury models is not being deterred by the recall woes at Toyota Motor Corp., which were blamed on overly rapid expansion.

Ghosn, who also heads Nissan's alliance partner Renault SA of France, said Nissan was in good shape to go on the growth track because it now had no "handicap" in cash reserves, market presence or product lineup.

The business plan also includes a focus on Nissan's trademark green technology, the electric vehicle. The automaker expects cumulative electric vehicle sales of 1.5 million vehicles for the Renault-Nissan alliance by the fiscal year ending March 2017.

Nissan will have a production capacity of 1.2 million vehicles in China by 2012, becoming Nissan's single largest global market, it said. Nissan aims to boost its market share in China to 10 percent under the six year plan from the current 6.2 percent.

Nissan also hopes to boost its operating profit margin to 8 percent over six years from the current 6.1 percent.

"We will accelerate our growth, bringing more innovation and excitement to our products and services as well as cleaner, more affordable cars for everyone around the world," said Ghosn.

But some were skeptical. Mamoru Katou, auto analyst at Tokai Tokyo Re-

search, said Nissan sees an opportunity to boost its presence while rivals Toyota and Honda Motor Co. are ailing from disaster-related problems. But he said they will also be recovering soon.

"It's true it has momentum," he said of Nissan's plans to raise production capacity around the world. "But Toyota and Honda will be back, and competition will intensify."

Japan's No. 2 automaker said last week that it plans to sell more cars around the world at 4.6 million vehicles in the current fiscal year, up 9.9 percent and a record for Nissan. Sales revenue is expected to edge up 7.1 percent to 9.4 trillion yen (\$117.5 billion).

Ghosn, who took over Nissan when it was teetering on the verge of bankruptcy in the late 1990s, said the first few years had been devoted to cost cuts and salvaging Nissan.

That was followed by a period of growth in the early part of last decade. Then the company had to invest in new headquarters and plants, and is now ready to reap the benefits of that in the years ahead, he said last week.

Like other Japanese automakers, Nissan suffered production disruptions in Japan because of parts shortages after the March quake and tsunami destroyed key suppliers. The automaker says it has mostly recovered and will be back to normal by October. □

## Nike's 4Q profit jumps 14 percent, shares soar



In this March 15, 2011 photo, Nike shoes are displayed at a shoe store in San Francisco. Nike Inc. reports quarterly financial results Monday, June 27, 2011, after the market close.

Associated Press

SARAH SKIDMORE

AP Retail Writer

PORTLAND, Oregon (AP) — Nike Inc.'s fourth-quarter net profit rose 14 percent to beat expectations as the company's sales improved around the globe. The world's largest athletic shoe company reported Monday that it earned \$594 million, or \$1.24 per share, for the quarter. That's up from the \$522 million, or \$1.06 per share, it earned in the same quarter last year.

Nike's total revenue rose 14 percent to \$5.77 billion. The results handily beat the \$1.16 per share on revenue of \$5.53 that analysts polled by FactSet were anticipating. The news sent shares of the company, based in Beaverton, Oregon, soaring in after-hours trading.

Nike had warned investors that higher costs would cut into its profit margins. The company, like many of its peers, is dealing with higher costs for materials, labor and freight. The company was able to make up for the rising costs with higher sales volume. Revenue improved in every market except Japan during the quarter. □

Proxy advisory firms favor NYSE-Deutsche combo

NEW YORK (AP) — NYSE Euronext Inc. said on Monday that two proxy-advising firms have recommended approval of the exchange operator's acquisition by Deutsche Boerse AG.

A positive assessment came on Friday from ISS Proxy Advisory Services, following a favorable recommendation from Glass Lewis & Co.

NYSE Euronext shareholders are scheduled to vote July 7 on the transaction.

Deutsche Boerse announced in February that it would buy the parent of the New York Stock Exchange for \$10 billion in a move to create the world's largest exchange operator. A bigger counter bid from Nasdaq OMX Group Inc. was rejected by NYSE and later withdrawn by Nasdaq after U.S. officials said it wouldn't be approved based on antitrust concerns.

On Friday, NYSE Euronext said that shareholders agreed to end their challenge to the deal after the boards of both exchange operators agreed to pay out a special \$904 million dividend to investors.

A report from ISS Proxy Advisory Services said the deal will create "the world leader in derivatives, capital raising markets, and capital markets infrastructure services."

ISS also expects the transaction will enable the combined company to become more efficient and reduce costs, while creating an ownership split favorable to shareholders of NYSE Euronext.

The recommendation from Glass Lewis said the deal would put the combined company in "an attractive competitive position" amid consolidation in the exchange industry.

Shares of NYSE Euronext rose 78 cents, or nearly 2.5 percent, to \$32.65 in mid-day trading. □



# Why economists see a stronger second half for 2011

CHRISTOPHER  
S. RUGABER  
PAUL WISEMAN  
AP Economics Writers

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Farewell and good riddance to the first half of 2011 — six months that are ending as sour for the U.S. economy as they began.

Most analysts say economic growth will perk up in the second half of the year. The reason is that the main causes of the slowdown — high oil prices and manufacturing delays because of the disaster in Japan — have started to fade.

"Some of the headwinds that caused us to slow are turning into tail winds," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics.

For an economy barely inching ahead two years after the Great Recession ended, the first half of 2011 can't end soon enough. Severe storms and rising gasoline prices held growth in January, February and March to a glacial annual rate of 1.9 percent.

The current quarter isn't shaping up much better. The average growth forecast of 3.8 top economists surveyed by The Associated Press is 2.3 percent.

The economy has to grow 3 percent a year just to hold the unemployment rate steady and keep up with population growth. And it has to average about 5 percent growth for a year to lower the unemployment rate by a full percentage point. It is 9.1 percent today.

As welcome as the stronger growth envisioned in the second half is, the improvement should be modest. For the final six months of the year, the AP economists forecast a growth rate of 3.2 percent.

So far this year, high gas and food prices have



Convenience store owner Floyd Bisson, lowers the price of regular gas at the pumps in front of his store in Phippsburg, Maine on Monday, June 27, 2011. The nationwide average for retail gasoline fell to \$3.57 per gallon Monday according to AAA, Wright Express and the Oil Price Information Service. Prices have dropped 24 cents in a month.

Associated Press

discouraged people from spending much on other things — from furniture and appliances to dinners out and vacations. That spending fuels economic growth. And some U.S. auto factories had to suspend or trim production after the March earthquake in Ja-

pan interrupted supplies of parts and electronics. American dealerships have had fewer cars to sell.

The latest dose of glum news: The government reported Monday that consumer spending was about the same in May as in April, the first time

in a year that spending hasn't increased from the previous month.

The report confirmed the toll that high gas prices, Japan-related disruptions and high unemployment have taken on personal spending in the second quarter.

"Here's to a better third,"

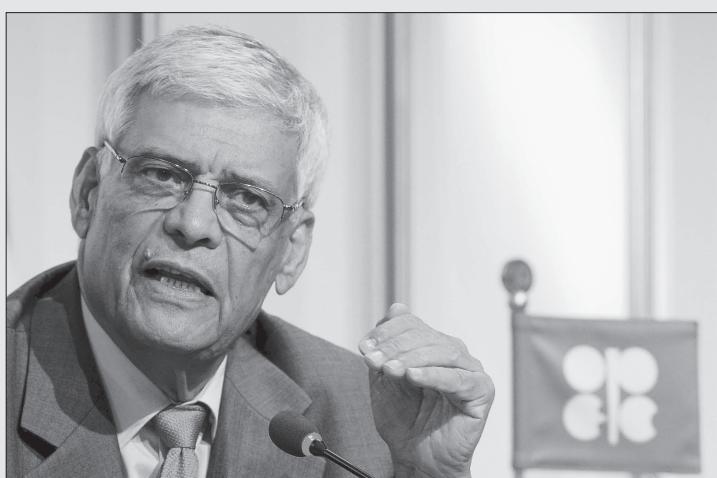
says Jennifer Lee, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets.

Relief is in sight, economists say. Oil prices have been falling since late May. The drop has lowered the price of regular unleaded gasoline by 23 cents in the past month, to a national average of \$3.57 a gallon (3.8 liters), according to AAA.

The timing of the drop in gas prices is especially fortunate because they usually rise during summer driving season, says Robert DiClemente, chief U.S. economist at Citigroup.

And the kinks in the global manufacturing chain are starting to be smoothed out as the Japanese factories that make cars and electronics resume production.

Diane Swonk, chief economist at Mesirow Financial, says auto sales should improve "quite substantially" later this year because the lost production from the earthquake is coming back faster than had been expected. □



Abdalla Salem El Badri of Libya, Secretary General of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, speaks at a news conference after a meeting of the EU-OPEC energy dialogue at the OPEC's headquarters in Vienna, Austria, Monday, June 27, 2011.

Associated Press

**JONATHAN FAHEY**

**AP Energy Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Oil prices wavered below \$91 a barrel Monday as the market waits to see if Greece receives a new round of international aid.

The Greek parliament must pass a new \$40 billion austerity package this week so the European Union and the International Monetary Fund release the next installment of Greece's \$156 billion bailout loan.

## Oil wavers below \$91 on concerns about Greece

Otherwise, the country could become the first in the euro zone to default on its debts — a potentially disastrous event that could drag down European banks and affect other financially troubled European countries.

Benchmark oil for August delivery fell 55 cents to settle at \$90.61 on

the New York Mercantile Exchange. It recovered some earlier losses on reports that French banks had agreed to accept slower repayment of Greece's debt. "We're going to see a lot of nervous trading over Greece until we

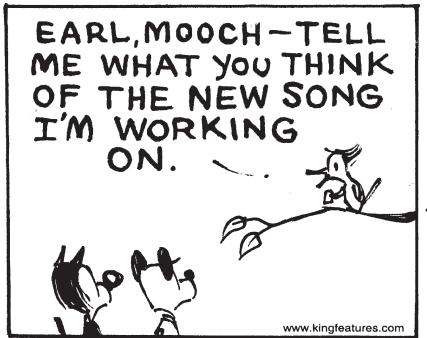
see a resolution," said Phil Flynn, an oil analyst at PFG Best.

Also Monday, the Commerce Department said that U.S. consumer spending was unchanged in May, the worst result since September 2009. When adjusted for inflation, spending dropped slightly.

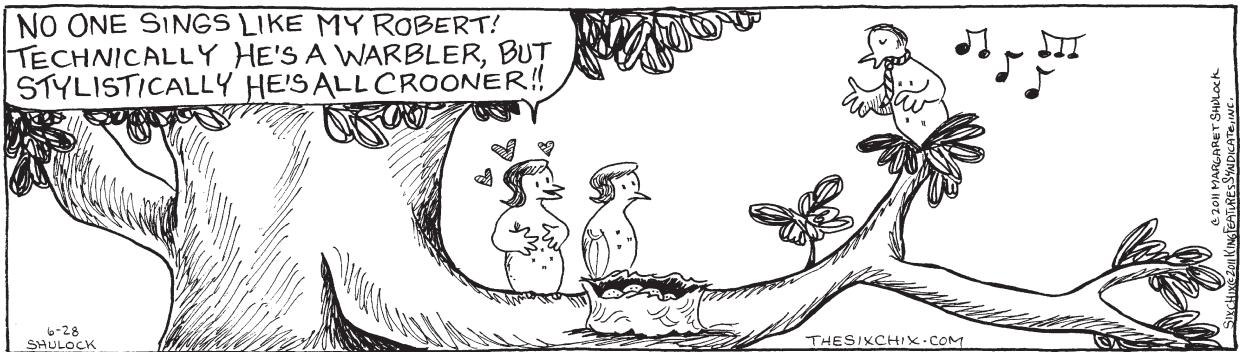
Flynn said while the consumer spending report did show weakness in the U.S. economy, traders were not surprised by the report.

"More of the focus is on Europe than it is on the U.S. right now," he said. □

## Mutts



## 6 Chix



## Conceptis Sudoku

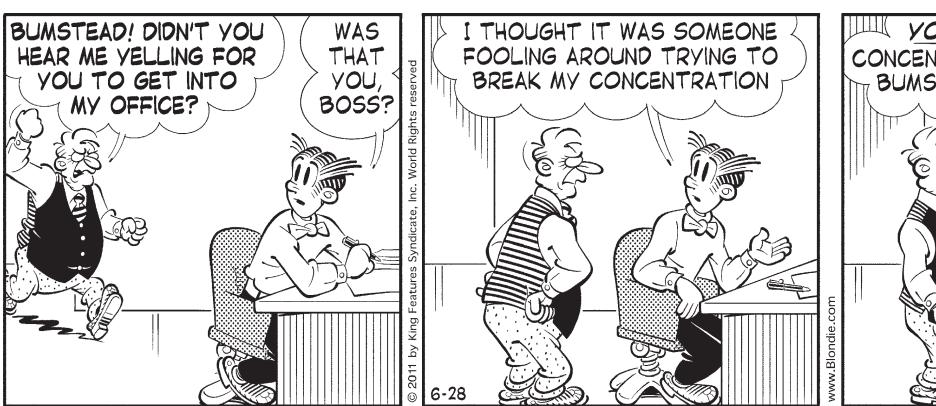
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Difficulty Level ★★

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6/28

## Blondie



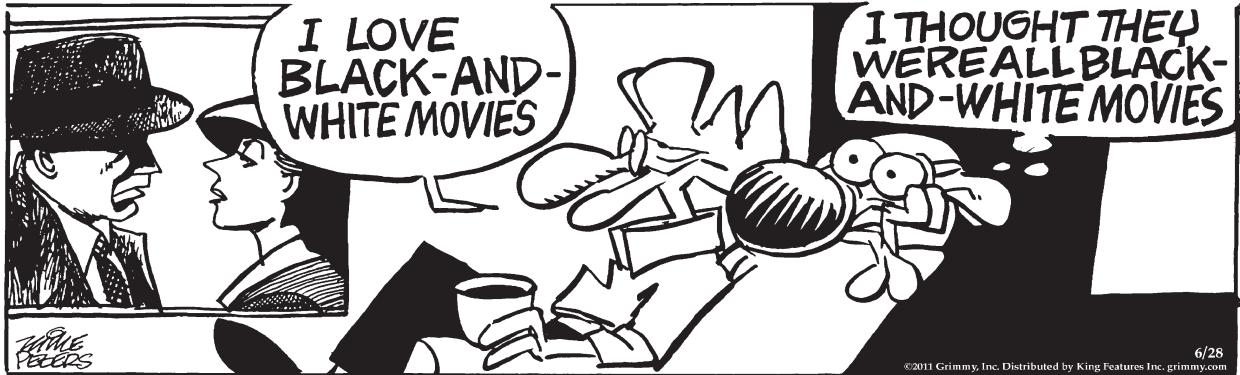
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3	4	8	2	5	9	1	6	7
8	1	2	7	9	5	4	3	6
9	7	6	4	3	2	5	8	1
4	5	3	8	1	6	7	2	9
5	6	4	3	2	1	9	7	8
2	8	1	9	6	7	3	5	4
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Yesterday's puzzle answer

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## Mother Goose &amp; Grimm



## Baby Blues



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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58			59					60				
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Monday's Puzzle Solved

P	A	N	M	A	S	S	K	I	W			
A	C	E	S	R	O	M	E	O	A	D	O	S
W	H	E	T	C	A	M	E	L	N	E	O	N
E	D	U	C	E	A	T	O	R	S	S	A	L
I	M	B	I	B	E	A	L	I	E	N	A	T
M	E	L	E	E	P	R	I	C	D	D	A	N
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6/28/11

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## Zits



38	Tap a baseball	48	Lasso
40	Melodies	49	Departs
41	Slipped	50	'Be quiet!'
42	;	52	Unclosed
43	back problem	53	Easy to handle
44	Toasted	55	Airline of old
45	Prickly plants	56	Eminem's
46	Shame	57	music style
47	To	58	unanimously
48	Red vegetable	59	Sty resident

6/28/11

# Today In History

The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, June 28, the 179th day of 2011. There are 186 days left in the year. Highlights in history on this date:

1389 - Serb army is defeated by the Turks at Kosovo Polje. Remainder of Serbia is conquered by Turks, who rule for almost 500 years.

1881 - Immigration Act of New Zealand restricts Japanese immigration.

1895 - Raids are launched from Bulgaria into Macedonia following founding of an external Macedonian revolutionary organization at Sofia.

1914 - Austria's Archduke Francis Ferdinand and his wife are assassinated at Sarajevo by Gavrilo Princip, Serb revolutionary, igniting World War I.

1919 - Germany and the Allies sign the Treaty of Versailles, formally ending World War I and providing for the creation of the League of Nations.

1942 - British 8th Army in North Africa retreats from Germans to El Alamein; German forces launch counterattack against Soviets in Kharkov region.

1948 - Yugoslavia is expelled from Communist group Cominform for hostility to Soviet Union.

1950 - North Korean soldiers capture Seoul, as South Koreans retreat south of Han River.

1956 - Labor riots are put down in Poznan, Poland, with many casualties.

1976 - The Seychelles, an Indian Ocean island group, become independent after 102 years under British rule.

1986 - West European leaders, meeting in the Netherlands, delay indefinitely imposing economic sanctions against South Africa.

1988 - U.S. military attache to Greece is killed by powerful car bomb that blows his armor-plated car off road.

1989 - In Slobodan Milosevic's shining moment, one million Serbs gather in Kosovo, Yugoslavia, to mark the 600th anniversary of their defeat by the Turks and cheer their nationalist leader.

1991 - Yugoslav army declares a cease-fire after

nearly two days of fighting to keep Slovenia from seceding.

1993 - Thousands of illegal Albanian immigrants in Greece are rounded up and sent home in bus convoys as police crack down following Albania's expulsion of a Greek Orthodox priest.

1994 - Three masked gunmen seize a bus and take about 40 passengers hostage near the southern Russian city of Mineralnye Vody.

1996 - Turkey's president Suleyman Demirel approves the country's first Islamic-led government in 73 years.

1997 - Cuban and Argentine forensic experts uncover the remains of legendary guerrilla leader Ernesto "Che" Guevara and five of his companions near the Bolivian town of Vallegrande.

1999 - Computer hackers deface the U.S. Army's main web site after having hacked into the White House, FBI and U.S. Senate Web sites.

2000 - Seven months after floating adrift in the Florida straits, 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez returns to his native Cuba, bringing to a close a fierce custody battle.

2001 - Yugoslavia hands over former President Slobodan Milosevic to the U.N. war crimes tribunal.

2004 - The United States hands over sovereignty to the Iraqis two days ahead of schedule and seven months before elections are set to take place.

2005 - The European Union and five nations pick France over Japan as the site for an experimental nuclear fusion reactor, opening the way for development of a potential source of clean, inexhaustible energy.

2006 - U.N. member states lift a \$950 million (euro756 million) spending cap on the United Nations budget, averting a financial crisis but dealing a blow to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan's reform agenda.

## Today's Birthdays:

England's King Henry VIII (1491-1547); Peter Paul Rubens, Flemish painter (1577-1640); Jean-Jacques Rousseau, French philosopher-author (1712-1778); Luigi



Mel Brooks

Pirandello, Italian dramatist and Nobel laureate (1867-1936); Richard Rodgers, U.S. composer (1902-1979); Mel Brooks, U.S. actor/director (1926--); Pat Morita, U.S. actor (1932-2005); Kathy Bates, actress (1948-); John Cusack, actor (1966--).

## Thought For Today:

I don't know whether war is an interlude during peace, or peace an interlude during war — Georges Clemenceau, French statesman (1841-1929). □

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# 'Cars 2' takes lead with \$66.1M opening weekend

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — "Cars 2" raced ahead of the pack at the weekend box office with a \$66.1 million debut as Disney's Pixar Animation unit continued its magic touch.

Cameron Diaz's classroom comedy "Bad Teacher" opened a solid No. 2 with \$31.6 million.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by Hollywood.com are:

1. "Cars 2," Disney, \$66,135,507, 4,115 locations, \$16,072 average, \$66,135,507, one week.  
 2. "Bad Teacher," Sony, \$31,603,106, 3,049 locations, \$10,365 average, \$31,603,106, one week.  
 3. "Green Lantern," Warner Bros., \$18,028,056, 3,816 locations, \$4,724 average, \$88,989,477, two weeks.

4. "Super 8," Paramount, \$12,028,092, 3,424 locations, \$3,513 average, \$95,114,324, three weeks.  
 5. "Mr. Popper's Penguins," Fox, \$10,145,662, 3,342 locations, \$3,036 average, \$39,293,341, two weeks.  
 6. "X-Men: First Class," Fox, \$6,680,480, 2,633 locations, \$2,537 average, \$132,895,408, four weeks.  
 7. "The Hangover Part II," Warner Bros., \$5,574,179, 2,755 locations, \$2,023 average, \$243,651,860, five weeks.  
 8. "Bridesmaids," Universal, \$5,260,290, 2,031 locations, \$2,590 average, \$146,547,315, seven weeks.  
 9. "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides," Disney, \$4,928,925, 2,244 locations, \$2,196 average, \$5,843,290, five weeks.  
 10. "Kung Fu Panda 2," Paramount, \$4,173,144, 2,527 locations, \$1,651 average, \$153,065,641, five weeks.  
 11. "Midnight in Paris," Sony Pictures Classics, \$4,171,047, 951 locations, \$4,386 aver-



age, \$28,270,637, six weeks.

12. "The Tree of Life," Fox Searchlight, \$1,328,026, 215 locations, \$6,177 average, \$177,223,364, eight weeks.  
 13. "Judy Moody and the NOT Bummer Summer," Relativity Media, \$617,578, 891 locations, \$693 average, \$13,447,548, three weeks.  
 14. "Rio," Fox, \$532,180, 344 locations, \$1,547 average,

\$139,633,163, 11 weeks.

15. "Thor," Paramount, \$511,300, 404 locations, \$1,266 average, \$186,749, two weeks.  
 16. "Fast Five," Universal, \$508,335, 458 locations, \$1,110 average, \$207,752,210, nine weeks.  
 17. "Beginners," Focus, \$470,981, 73 locations, \$6,452 average, \$38,438,310, eight weeks. □

four weeks.

18. "Buck," IFC, \$291,503, 54 locations, \$5,398 average, \$386,749, two weeks.  
 19. "Water For Elephants," Fox, \$255,630, 292 locations, \$875 average, \$57,689,232, 10 weeks.  
 20. "Something Borrowed," Warner Bros., \$226,135, 303 locations, \$746 average, \$38,438,310, eight weeks. □

## Alicia Keys helping produce a Broadway play

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Alicia Keys is following Jay-Z and Will Smith into the world of Broadway producers.

Keys, whose hits include "Fallin'" and "A Woman's Worth," will help produce Lydia R. Diamond's play "Stick Fly" this fall.

The work is a contemporary comedy of manners revolving around an affluent black family whose insecurities gradually reveal themselves during a vacation to Martha's Vineyard.

"I'm passionate about this play because it is so beautifully written and portrays black America in a way that we don't often get to see in entertainment," Keys said in a statement. "I know



it will touch all audiences who will find a piece of themselves somewhere inside this house."

The piece has been performed in Boston, Chicago and Washington, D.C. It's set to begin performances at the Lyceum Theatre on

45th Street on Nov. 18 and officially opens Dec. 8.

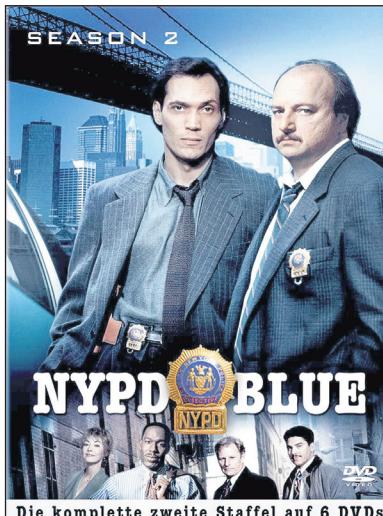
The director will be Kenny Leon, whose Broadway production of "Fences" earned 10 Tony Award nominations. His other credits include "A Raisin in the Sun" and "Radio Golf." Diamond, a playwriting professor at Boston University, previously adapted Toni Morrison's "The Bluest Eye" for the stage and has written "Stage Black" and "The Gift Horse."

In 2009, Jay-Z, Will Smith and wife Jada Pinkett Smith joined the producing team of the musical "Fela!," the show about Afrobeat superstar Fela Anikulapo-Kuti. □

## High court to rule on FCC indecency policy

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Supreme Court will take up the First Amendment fight over what broadcasters can put on the airwaves when young children may be watching television.

The justices said Monday they will review appeals court rulings that threw out the Federal Communications Commission's rules against the isolated use of expletives as well as fines against broadcasters who showed a woman's nude buttocks on a 2003 episode of ABC's "NYPD Blue." The Obama administration objected that the appeals court stripped the FCC of its ability to police the airwaves. □



## Billy Ray returns with new patriotic album



**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)** — Billy Ray Cyrus' life has seen a lot of upheaval in the past year. He nearly got divorced, endured public scrutiny of his daughter Miley's behavior and a resulting backlash over his parenting, and saw the end of "Hannah Montana," the Disney phenomenon that changed the Cyrus' lives forever.

But even though Cyrus has lived out his drama in the tabloids, he believes everyone can identify with his struggles. "I've been through a lot," Cyrus said. "That being said, I think people around the world can look at my life and say, 'That guy is kind of just like us — peaks and valleys, ups and downs. That's what I've lived. Somewhere along the line, I think I just realized that the key to life for me and for everybody on this planet, it's not about how many times you get knocked down, it's about how many times you get back up. Everybody has adversities. Everybody has crossroads.'

That's especially true of members of the military, who have been on Cyrus' mind since the early days of his career. He salutes them on his new album, "I'm American," out Tuesday. □

# Adding punk rock to your camembert feuilletée

JOHN ANDERSON

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Julia Child had no tattoos. Nor was she ever called upon to explain the difference between "shkoff" and "shkiaff."

"Shkoff" is to eat," explained Nadia G, the punk-rock-meets-Prada hostess of the "Bitchin' Kitchen" cooking show. "'Shkiaff' is to slap. Like, 'Gettoutta here I'm gonna give you a couple of shkiaffs,' or, 'Forget presentation, just shkiaff the food onto the plate.'" Linguistically speaking, the transgressive yet instructional Nadia G (for Giosia) is as eclectic as the recipes she serves up weekly on the Cooking Channel, a spin-off of the Food Network. A second-generation Italian-Canadian, she grew up in Saint-Leonard, an immigrant enclave in Montreal. As a result French, Italian, English and various hybridizations pepper the frequently love-themed episodes ("The Dish on Dating," "Makeup Meal," "Breakup Bonanza"), which began running on Wednesday nights in the United States

in October (after having its debut in Canada).

All of which contributes to the spatula-wielding contradiction that is the star of "Bitchin' Kitchen": On one hand she talks like a biker. ("It ain't rocket surgery, man!") On the other she pronounces "fleur de sel" with Parisian perfection. In one episode, "The Selfish Spread," she prepares Camembert feuilletée with apricot syrup and pistachios; in "Impressing the In-Laws" she advises the viewer to "clean up a little" before the guests arrive, while dropping a pair of handcuffs to the floor and kicking them under the counter.

In person Nadia G is a gentler, less intimidating, more conventionally dressed chef, even if the character she plays is largely her. "I was a ravenous child. I'm a ravenous adult. I love to eat," said Nadia G, 31, during an interview at the Cooking Channel kitchens, above the Chelsea Market. She has no formal training as a cook. "I kind of experimented a lot on my own,



**Nadia G on the set of her show "Bitchin' Kitchen," in New York, June 14, 2011. Nadia G brings punk-meets-Prada flair as the host of the Cooking Channel's show "Bitchin' Kitchen," which began as a web series.**

(Yana Paskova/The New York Times)

and made a lot of nasty dishes when I started off. When I got my first loft, and was hung over and needed something to eat, I tried to make something Mom made, but it didn't work out, because Mom didn't make rose sauce with potato chips in it. Mom didn't make pesto sauce with Beer Nuts." Her recipes have since improved.

In some ways "Bitchin' Kitchen," which Nadia G writes with the show's director, Joshua Dorsey, is the logical conclusion of the personality-driven food show hosted in earlier days by Dione Lucas and Child, and more recently by Emeril Lagasse, Rachael Ray and Paula Dean. All are characters, in a sense, but Nadia G is a persona she never steps out of. At the same time, in the world of food TV, she's retro: She

really teaches people how to cook.

In the 1990s, when the Food Network invaded TV, where food had been largely the purview of public television (a la "The French Chef"), it did so mainly by showing the viewer what to make and how. Increasingly the channel's preoccupation has been with competitions, novelty comestibles and the peregrinations of Guy Fieri ("Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives"), all of which have been described as "food porn."

The Cooking Channel, which is celebrating its first anniversary, is a return to the Food Network's roots, said Bruce Seidel, senior vice president for programming at the channel, who joined the network 13 years ago. "Food Network is very pop culture," he said. "And as we became more enter-



**Nadia G is the master of her kitchen on her show "Bitchin' Kitchen," in New York, June 14, 2011.**

(Yana Paskova/The New York Times)

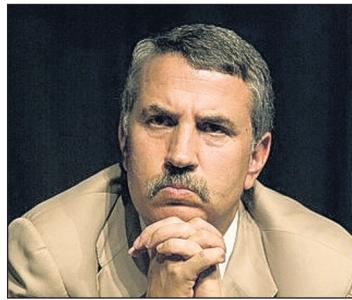
tainment oriented, we kind of had two channels, the in-the-kitchen programming on the weekends and the prime-time entertainment shows." While "Bitchin' Kitchen" was a little too provocative for the "Food Network demo," Seidel said, it's caught fire on the Cooking Channel. Now it's one of its bigger hits.

And why not? Nadia G brings earthiness, sex and high heels to the relatively monkish world of TV cooking. She also brings a set design that suggests "Pee-wee's Playhouse" in animal prints and leather, and three colorful supporting players: the shirtless Hans (Bartłomiej Rochon), "our scantily clad food correspondent and resident nutritionist"; the beleaguered Spice Agent (Ben Shaouli), who never feels he's getting his just deserts; and Panos, the meat- and fishmonger played by Panagiotis Kousioulas, who Nadia G said isn't really acting all that much. "Panos is extremely conservative, like old-school Greek Orthodox," she said. "You walk into his house, and he has icons covered in Saran Wrap."

This marriage of cooking and comedy, like that of chilies and chocolate, may make sense only when it hits the palate. The route to television for "Bitchin' Kitchen" was similarly untraditional, if very of-the-moment.

"I did skit comedy online for many years, beginning around 2001," Nadia G said. "Around 2006 I started watching a lot of food television and got re-interested in food. I come from a very food-obsessed family. But I also wanted to do my own thing, which was the comedy." The original "Bitchin' Kitchen," a Web-only series, was about a husband and wife who couldn't stand each other. "And while I'm writing this skit," she said, "I thought, 'I may as well focus on the recipe and give this a shot,' and I made a penne with pesto, and it just jelled for me. I showed it to people, created a pitch document, and people took to the idea." □

# It has to start with them



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

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When President Barack Obama announced his decision to surge more troops into Afghanistan in 2009, I argued that it could succeed if three things happened: Pakistan became a different country, President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan became a different man and we succeeded at doing exactly what we claim not to be doing, that is nation-building in Afghanistan. None of that has happened, which is why I still believe our options in Afghanistan are: lose early, lose late, lose big or lose small. I vote for early and small.

My wariness about Afghanistan comes from asking these three questions: When does the Middle East make you happy? How did the cold war end? What would Ronald Reagan do? Let's look at all three.

When did the Middle East make us happiest in the last few decades? That's easy: 1) when Anwar Sadat made his breakthrough visit to Jerusalem; 2) when the Sunni uprising in Iraq against the pro-al-Qaida forces turned the tide there; 3) when the Taliban regime in Afghanistan was routed in 2001 by Afghan rebels, backed only by U.S. air power and a few hundred U.S. special forces; 4) when Israelis and Palestinians drafted a secret peace accord in Oslo; 5) when the Green Revolution happened in Iran; 6) when the Cedar Revolution erupted in Lebanon; 7) when the democracy uprisings in Tunisia, Libya, Yemen, Syria and Egypt emerged; 8) when Israel unilaterally withdrew from South Lebanon and Gaza.

And what do they all have in common? America had nothing to do with almost all of them. They were self-propelled by the people themselves; we did not see them coming; and most of them didn't cost us a dime. And what does that tell you? The most important

truth about the Middle East: It only puts a smile on your face when it starts with them. If it doesn't start with them, if they don't have ownership of a new peace initiative, a battle or a struggle for good governance, no amount of U.S. troops kick-starting, cajoling or doling out money can make it work. And if it does start with them, they really don't need or want us around for very long. When people own an initiative – as the original Afghan coalition that toppled the Taliban government did, as the Egyptians in Tahrir Square did, as the Egyptian and Israeli peacemakers did – they will be self-propelled and U.S. help can be an effective multiplier. When they don't want to own it – in Afghanistan's case, decent governance – or when they think we want some outcome more than they do, they will be happy to hold our coats, shake us down and sell us the same carpet over and over.

As for how the cold war ended, that's easy. It ended when the two governments – the Soviet Union and Maoist China, which provided the funding and ideology propelling our enemies – collapsed. China had a peaceful internal transformation from Maoist Communism to capitalism, and the Soviet Union had a messy move from Marxism to capitalism. End of Cold War.

Since then, we have increasingly found ourselves at war with another global movement: radical jihadist Islam. It is fed by money and ideology coming out of Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Iran. The attack of 9/11 was basically a joint operation by Saudi and Pakistani nationals. The Marine and U.S. Embassy bombings in Lebanon were believed to have been the work of Iranian agents. Yet we invaded Afghanistan and Iraq, because Saudi Arabia had oil, Pakistan had nukes and Iran was too big. We hoped that this war-by-bank-shot would lead to changes in all three countries. So far, it has not. Until we break the combination of mosque, money and power in Iran, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, which fuel jihadism, all we're doing in Afghanistan is fighting the symptoms. The true engines

propelling radical jihadist violence will still be in place. But that break requires, for starters, a new U.S. energy policy. Oh, well.

George Will pointed out that Sen. John McCain, a hawk on Libya and Afghanistan, asked last Sunday, "I wonder what Ronald Reagan would be saying today?" with the clear implication that Reagan would never leave wars like Libya or Afghanistan unfinished. I actually know the answer to that question. I was there.

On Feb. 25, 1984, I stood on the tarmac at the Beirut airport and watched as a parade of Marine amphibious vehicles drove right down the runway, then veered off and crossed the white sand beach, slipped into the Mediterranean and motored out of Lebanon to their mother ship.

After a suicide bomber killed 241 U.S. military personnel,



CartoonArt International: www.nytn.com/cartoons

Reagan realized that he was in the middle of a civil war, with an undefined objective and an elusive enemy, whose defeat was not worth the sacrifice. So he cut his losses and just walked away. He was warned of dire consequences; after all, this was the middle of the Cold War with a nuclear-armed Soviet Union. We would look weak. But Reagan thought we

would get weak by staying. As Reagan deftly put it at the time: "We are not bugging out. We are moving to deploy into a more defensive position."

Eight years later, the Soviet Union was in the dustbin of history, America was ascendant and Lebanon, God love the place, was still trying to sort itself out – without us. □



CHARLES M. BLOW

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"Anyone who has ever struggled with poverty knows how extremely expensive it is to be poor." James Baldwin penned that line more than 50 years ago, but it seems particularly prescient today, if in a different manner than its original intent.

Baldwin was referring to the poor being consistently overcharged for inferior goods.

But I've always considered that sentence in the context of the extreme psychological toll of poverty, for it is in that way that I, too, know well how expensive it is to be poor.

I know the feel of thick calluses on the bottom of shoeless feet.

I know the bite of the cold breeze that slithers through a drafty house.

## The price of being poor

I know the weight of constant worry over not having enough to fill a belly or fight an illness.

It is in that context that I am forced to assume that if Washington politicians ever knew the sting of poverty then they have long since vanquished the memory. How else to qualify their positions?

In fact, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, nearly half of all members of Congress are millionaires, and between 2008 and 2009, when most Americans were feeling the brunt of the recession, the personal wealth of members of Congress collectively increased by more than 16 percent. Must be nice.

Poverty is brutal, consuming and unforgiving. It strikes at the soul.

You defend yourself with hope, hard work and, for some, a helping hand. But these weapons grow dull in an economy on the verge of atrophy, in a job market tilting ever more toward the top and in a political environment that would sacrifice the weak to the wealthy.

On Thursday, the Pew Research Center released a poll that showed how disillusioned low-income people

have become. Those making less than \$30,000 were the most likely to expect to be laid off or be asked to take a pay cut. Furthermore, they were the most likely to say that they had trouble getting or paying for medical care and paying the rent or mortgage.

But at least those numbers include people with incomes. A vast subset is chronically unemployed and desperately searching for work.

According to the Consumer Reports Employment Index, "In 23 of the past 24 months, lower-income Americans have lost more jobs than they have gained."

It continues, "Meanwhile, more affluent Americans seem to be gaining more jobs than they are losing."

And the current election-cycle obsession to balance the books with a pound of flesh, which is being pushed by pitiless Republicans and accommodated by pitiful Democrats, will only multiply the pain.

Until more politicians understand – or remember – what it means to be poor in this country, we are destined to fail the least among us, and all of us will pay a heavy price for that failure. □

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